

**re-value**

# Re-Value Monitoring & Evaluation Report 3

Re-Value Deliverable D7.8

## Report information

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## Executive Summary

The present deliverable constitutes the third report on the Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of Re-Value's project impacts. The Re-Value M&E Framework has already been through two revisions, the last of which is available in D76: Re-Value Monitoring & Evaluation Model (second intermediate version).<sup>1</sup> The Framework, in its latest version, bases the evaluation on a set of project-level Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), as well as on city journeys. The latter captures activities and learning from the Re-Value cities in a narrative way, linking it to the project-level KPIs, accentuating the project's pathways to impact. Four types of KPIs have been defined:

- Results that are to be delivered within the duration of the project;
- Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation (CDE) measures that the project uses to communicate and disseminate various project results within and beyond the Re-Value cities' ecosystem;
- Outcomes that can be observed in the mid-term as a result of communication and dissemination of project Results to direct target groups, among others within the Re-Value cities;
- Longer-term Impacts that are outside of the project's scope, including long-term effects on society.

This third version of the M&E Report captures the progress made by Re-Value cities and the project in general during its third year (January 2025 to December 2025). Examining the activities that took place, as well as the challenges and learnings, enables the results in each of the various Work Packages to be more impactful and replicable. Lessons learned are not only useful for this project, but also for similar endeavours that aim to bring sustainable and inclusive innovation in European cities of various contexts.

In its third year, the project shifted from co-creation and contextualization to application, with all nine Re-Value cities working as a Community of Practice to exchange on their initial results and start to refine a collection of novel tools, methods and approaches that can ultimately be shared as part of the Portfolio of Urban Planning and Design Approaches. Leading cities completed their Detailed Roadmaps for full-scale deployment that will come to a close in the final year, while Replication Cities also progressed with activities outlined in their own Roadmaps. The review of this year also provided important lessons. As cities moved from co-creation and planning into implementation, it became clear that while Re-Value's Innovation Cycles supported meaningful progress, stronger operational integration between them is needed to maximise cumulative impact. The experience also highlighted the value of flexible, city-oriented and coordinated approaches, such as the Sister Spaces and TTP Talks. They enable peer learning, adaptation to local contexts, and reflective use of tools to support cities at different stages of readiness. At the same time, monitoring confirmed that many of the most significant changes at city level are still unfolding, underscoring the importance of the final project year as a consolidation phase to better articulate impacts, embed learning into mainstream planning, and translate emerging insights into longer-term urban transition strategies.

The final report of project impacts will be included in the last deliverable, namely D7.10: Re-Value M&E Report 4, due in December 2026. Furthermore, a final update of the Re-Value M&E Framework will incorporate the necessary changes to support structured reflection across cities in the final year. This is foreseen in deliverable D7.9: Re-Value M&E Model (final version) due in March 2026.

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<sup>1</sup> [D7.6: Re-Value M&E Model \(Second Intermediate Version\)](#)

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. About this Deliverable

The "Re-Valuing Urban Quality & Climate Neutrality in European Waterfront Cities" (Re-Value) project aims to support cities in developing, testing, capturing, and sharing innovative strategies for creating value through urban quality while pursuing holistic approach to climate neutrality. The project will showcase how integrated urban planning and design can be effectively applied to build inclusive, beautiful, and sustainable cities in line with the New European Bauhaus (NEB) objectives.<sup>2</sup> As part of the Horizon Europe Innovation Actions, Re-Value contributes to the EU's Climate-Neutral and Smart Cities Mission by advancing practical solutions for urban transformation that foster both environmental sustainability and enhanced urban living.

This deliverable (D7.8) is developed as part of Work Package (WP) 7 on Monitoring and Documenting Impact, and it presents the progress during the third year of the project done under the Task 7.2 (T7.2: Monitoring and documentation of impact). The goal of WP7 is to understand how Re-Value helps city stakeholders benefit from urban processes that aim to integrate and balance climate neutrality ambitions with high urban quality. The Framework for Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) of the project impact was first developed in deliverable D7.1: Re-Value Monitoring & Evaluation Model (initial version), and updated in D7.3: Re-Value M&E Model (first intermediate version)<sup>3</sup> and D7.6: Re-Value M&E Model (second intermediate version).<sup>4</sup> It described the M&E Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), including their connection to project activities and tasks, the roles and responsibilities for the project partners, and their contribution to expected outcomes and impacts of the project.

The M&E KPIs described in D7.6 are used in this deliverable to report on the progress made in the third project year (M25-M36, January-December 2025). Under each KPI the progress and insights on lessons learned are provided. Following the last version of the M&E Framework in D7.6, this report additionally includes a section on the progress made in the Re-Value cities. These city journeys, which link city activities with project KPIs, provide a clearer, more complete and easy to read view of the project's impact. Content in this deliverable is therefore partly repeated or summarised from other project reports that describe the work in more detail. Further, a KPI tracker, in the form of a spreadsheet, is used to track progress in a more quantitative way and is only used for reporting project progress to the European Commission (EC).

The documentation and evaluation of the progress made in the first two project years provided a basis for reflection and potential refinement of project activities, some of which are included in this deliverable. A final update of the M&E Framework will be part of D7.9: Re-Value M&E Model (final version) due in M39 (March 2026). The next and final progress report will be part of deliverable D7.10: Re-Value M&E Report 7 due in M48 (December 2026).

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<sup>2</sup> EU Funding & Tenders Portal. Urban planning and design for just, sustainable, resilient and climate-neutral cities by 2030 HORIZON-MISS-2021-CIT-02

<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-miss-2021-cit-02-01>

<sup>3</sup> [D7.3: Re-Value M&E Model \(First Intermediate Version\)](#)

<sup>4</sup> [D7.6: Re-Value M&E Model \(Second Intermediate Version\)](#)

## 1.2. Monitoring & Evaluation in Re-Value

The goal of WP7 is to understand how Re-Value helps city stakeholders benefit from urban processes that integrate and balance climate neutrality ambitions with high urban quality. Cities throughout Europe have set a course to achieve carbon neutrality, sustainability and quality of life, but they struggle with a currently siloed and insufficient way of working towards realising those goals. At the same time, current approaches result in missed opportunities for high urban quality. Therefore, Re-Value aims to contribute to addressing the symptoms of sub-optimal urban planning approaches. WP7's mission is to track and analyse indications of the project's potential positive future impacts, as well as any negative externalities, in Re-Value cities and across the broader European urban community. It will try to gather some insights regarding the following questions:

- Do Re-Value cities change their vision, their approaches, or their outcomes based on what they learn from Re-Value?
- How does Re-Value contribute to capacity building to further help other European cities?
- What aspects of Re-Value help cities more (or less)? What can be improved?

To achieve this, the Re-Value M&E Framework has two main aims: to demonstrate that the project and its cities reach their goals, and, even more importantly, to understand how they reach them, so that a feedback and learning loop is established to support them and other cities that want to replicate the approaches and results. The M&E Framework (shown in Figure 1) operationalises the monitoring of project progress, the evaluation of processes and results, and feedback, by tracking project Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) and evaluating Impact Pathways.

Analysing how technological, governance, economic, social, spatial, and other impact pathways achieve results can generate valuable insights and support learning and the replication of the project's experiments and methods. Concretely, Re-Value will produce a set of Results and will use appropriate communication and dissemination measures and other knowledge transfer activities, in order to reach the expected Outcomes and long-term Impacts set out in the project's Grant Agreement. This is illustrated in Figure 1. Mid- and long-term impact, however, cannot be effectively measured within the duration of the project. Therefore, specific KPIs have been defined as proxies to illustrate how the project's activities and results contribute towards reaching the Outcomes and Impacts defined in the project or requested in the European Commission's Call.<sup>5</sup> The KPIs are tracked in both a quantitative and qualitative way, through an internal KPI tracker and in this series of deliverables respectively. These KPIs serve not only as a monitoring and evaluation tool but also as guidance for each Work Package to align their tasks with the project's overarching goals. They help ensure that activities across the consortium are strategically contributing to the desired Outcomes and Impacts.

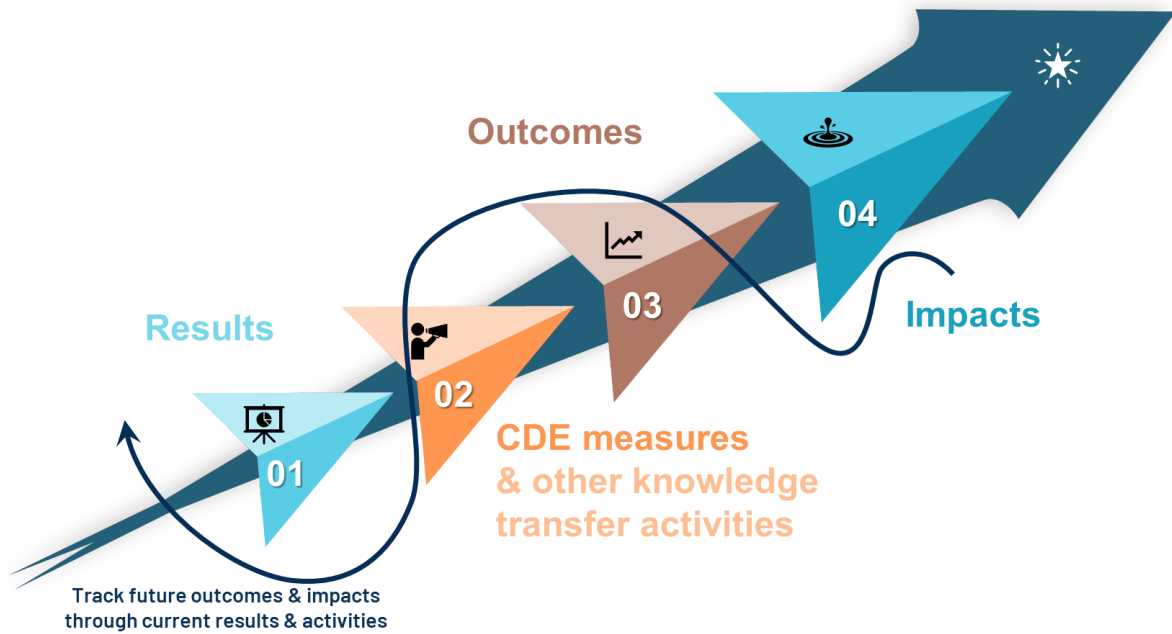
Through the process of understanding how the different project results and activities lead to the desired Outcomes and Impacts, learnings can be gathered for steering the pilots and the project itself, but also for supporting the wider community of cities in their quest to become just, sustainable, resilient and

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<sup>5</sup> EU Funding & Tenders Portal. Urban planning and design for just, sustainable, resilient and climate-neutral cities by 2030 HORIZON-MISS-2021-CIT-02  
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/horizon-miss-2021-cit-02-01>

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climate-neutral. The focus here lies not just on reaching targets, but specifically on tracking how results are achieved, so that learnings can be shared and results validated in context. For this purpose, appropriate methods will be utilised to monitor and document how and for whom impact is created by the different project activities that contribute to the desired Outcomes and Impacts of the project.



*Figure 1: Depiction of Re-Value Monitoring & Evaluation approach.*

## 2. Progress in Re-Value cities

### 2.1. Leading Cities

#### 2.1.1 Ålesund

##### 2.1.1.1 Full-Scale Deployment of the Waterfront Pilot & Update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans

The municipal partners (AK and SUAS) have gone through major changes in 2025. The entire board and leadership of SUAS has been changed while multiple projects have been happening within the pilot area. Re-Value has been very important in providing a solid knowledge-base and informing stakeholders throughout the year. The ongoing conflicts at a political/administrative-level are fundamentally relevant for the project since they are related to how and for what activities the space within the pilot area should be used. While the debate has primarily been about the short-term gains from certain activities, Re-Value has provided new knowledge and perspectives about other kinds of value, such as alternative tourism strategies to the current high-volume approach that demands a lot of space.

There is a constant push for short-term solutions that only yield short-term gains for selected stakeholders, while Re-Value focuses on the long-term impact of the pilot area. Re-Value's activities are making it easier for stakeholders to understand and emphasise the core values of the project in the long term and better understand the consequences of decisions within the pilot area.

Examples of activities and relevant contributions:

- Participation in working groups and formal contributors to ongoing municipal plans and strategies. For example, the Tourism study which is underway (December 2025) and the revision of the land use section of the Municipal master plan. Feedback from stakeholders indicate that Re-Value is contributing new and useful ideas to the discussion.
- Technical studies related to existing buildings: several of the old buildings have been the focus of student activities in 2025. Master students from TU Delft have completed Life Cycle Assessments of the Devold building, showing the environmental gain of re-using the building. In addition, the last Re-Value Innovation Camp and secondary school classes examined possible uses for the “Pink Building” (Nedre Strandgate 15), a neglected building with cultural value. This building was also the focus of an Opportunity Study related to the re-purposing of old buildings for cultural activities.<sup>6</sup>
- Energy/mobility: Students performed a detailed mobility study for the pilot area, looking at possible impacts of a new concert hall. An independent study provided insight on shore-power needs for cruise ships, and also conducted energy studies for the buildings that will be developed in the pilot area and other major developments in the city centre. There are strong synergies with other projects, including ORION (EU) and REGEL (NFR).
- Digital Twin: A detailed 3D-scan has been performed for the “Pink Building” and is actively being used for potential tenants and a technical evaluation of the building.

<sup>6</sup> <https://re-value-cities.eu/documents/nedre-strandgate-15-historical-documentation-and-cultural-reuse-study>

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Re-Value has been very visible in the city centre with many activities and early activation of the area throughout the year. Instagram has been the main communication channel with production of informative videos on different topics.

In the first years of the project, Ålesund also worked extensively on the development of its Detailed Roadmap, part of which included the complex task of identifying plans and strategies relevant to its ambition of reducing emissions and working towards climate neutrality. AK is additionally participating in the Norwegian National forum for Mission Cities, to follow the work of Trondheim, Stavanger and Oslo municipalities closely but also to gain contact with important national organisations and ministries.

Furthermore, moving towards the last phase of the Re-Value project, Ålesund and Bruges took initiative in spring 2025 to discuss what it means to update the Territorial Transformation Plans (TTPs) for the Re-Value cities, by drafting a concept note for the “Updated TTPs” deliverable together with the support of NTNU. The process and outcomes were summarised and shared with all cities and other project partners in fall 2025 to collect feedback and lead to a final guiding document for cities’ work and relevant deliverables in 2026 (see [R6](#)).

As part of the Re-Value Full-scale Deployment and TTP updating process in Fall 2025, Ålesund also participated in a series of thematic TTP Talks (see R5) with its sister city Rijeka. In these Talks, the cities discussed some actions/measures from the pilot areas, with their goals, outcomes, needs/challenges, to gain new insights in the process of updating the city’s strategies and plans (TTPs), anchoring Re-Value pilot and learnings beyond the project. These were organised around some of Re-Value’s Systemic Challenges.

On 8 October, during the Cascais Study Visit and mini Consortium meeting, a **TTP Talk on nature-based solutions** was organised. Here Ålesund and Rijeka, after presenting some of their (planned) actions on the topic, discussed in more detail the implementation of a park on sealed pavements. Both cities are working with harbor areas, and Ålesund has already implemented such a measure. In particular, the implementation in Ålesund was a great success, as people are using the new park, especially on sunny days and as a resting area during social events. This successful experience could be of inspiration for Rijeka. The need for good communication with the land owner (often the port authority) and good examples and tailored solutions were highlighted.

A **TTP Talk on energy and mobility** was held between the two cities on 24 November, followed also by Constanța partners who weren’t able to attend the session with their Sister cities. In this workshop, the topic of “relocating mobility-related functions” (e.g., parking spaces, bus terminals, etc.) was found relevant for all to further discuss. This pertains more in general to the reclamation of valuable space for new uses for people. In Ålesund, cruise ships occupying the port represent a challenge, and more so as they are expected to receive shore-power at the ports by 2035, causing potential capacity issues to the grid. Another important topic is the reshaping of the bus terminal in Sørsida into a new public transport hub, which has received public and political resistance due to the largely private-car-dominated mobility in the city. Rijeka also faces public resistance in shifting towards collective and soft mobility transport modes due to a car-based culture. However, they have successfully managed to reclaim a former parking space in the pilot area for new functions, which could be of inspiration for Ålesund and others. In Constanța, they are developing a new concept mobility study (with support from the World Bank, as municipality partner) to remove cars from the Peninsula area (read more of this under the cultural & spatial quality TTP talk with Constanța). Building good and convincing scenarios to showcase alternative solutions and the benefits was

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considered as a necessity to overcome the existing obstacles to such projects. However this also requires appropriate methods, tools and data to present the value of different options for various stakeholders. External partners can help support with detailed analyses and studies, as it is happening in Constanța. Further, legibility and political support are important enablers for such actions.

Finally, a **TTP talk on spatial and cultural quality** took place on 26 November. In this instance Ålesund and Rijeka shared a discussion with Burgas, as its Sister city İzmir couldn't attend the workshop. The three cities, after presenting their respective relevant activities on this theme, discussed the topic of "Revaluing existing structures". These are buildings with historical value in the case of Ålesund and Rijeka. In Ålesund, the "Pink building", a listed building with an interesting history and architectural qualities, offers a great opportunity to connect a lot of perspectives that Re-Value is exploring, including cultural aspects and adaptive re-use. Rijeka's Exportdrvo building equally offers rich history and great potential for a central spot in the envisioned Cultural Corridor concept. When revaluing old buildings, it is crucial to treat them as multifunctional assets within the wider urban system, considering improvement of the surrounding public space, and securing some open access and services to the community. Equally important is pairing physical improvements with research, storytelling, and citizen involvement (from local artists to students), which strengthens heritage awareness, attracts new users, and ensures that renovated structures remain meaningful and active over time.

The completed TTP Talks, as well as an upcoming **TTP Talk on governance** in early 2026, serve as the bridge between the Detailed Roadmap and the development of the city's final deliverables, namely D2.2: Full-Scale Deployment of the Waterfront Pilot in Ålesund and D2.3: Updated long-term Territorial Transformation Plan towards climate neutrality by 2030, Ålesund. In these deliverables, Ålesund's actions throughout its Re-Value journey (see also next section) and its experiences will be used as a basis to collect insights on the outcomes, needs and replication potential, as well as propose recommendations for the update of TTPs at city level. The city considers this TTP work to be key in documenting how to influence broader policy.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

*R6: Full-Scale Deployment in Leading Cities' Waterfront Pilots*

## 2.1.1.2 Fit for 55 objectives

The most important strategic document for Ålesund municipality's work with climate targets is the *Green strategy*, which focuses on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preventing the loss of natural diversity. The *Green strategy* sets the goal for 2030 to reduce emissions by 60% compared to 2009 (the most recent year with available data). This target means an emissions cut of 177 000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalents (169 260 according to updated figures from the Norwegian Environmental Agency, 2024). The status in 2022 was a reduction of approximately 11.5%. The climate budget shows that there is still a large gap between the effect of the measures and the municipality's target of reducing direct emissions by 60% by 2030. At the end of 2025, the numbers are still not updated in the municipal climate budget, but an update is expected in 2026. However, figures for 2023 in the national database from the Norwegian Environmental Agency show an increase of 13% from 2022-2023, with the major contributor being the maritime sector with an increase of 48%, which is a very negative trend.

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The Sørsida pilot area will have many different opportunities to contribute to reduced greenhouse gas emissions, in particular when the plots are sold and developed, as well as through mobility interventions and relocating the public transport hub. Several actions have already been identified in the city's Roadmap, including more circular approaches and reuse of the buildings. Re-Value further offers an opportunity to connect plans and strategies with climate neutrality goals, as currently the city is rather focused on urban quality. Especially important for the Ålesund partners is to demonstrate how the activities performed in the Pilot area of Sørsida contribute to the city's ambitions and implement the plans/strategies in practice.

In 2025, Re-Value produced two reports that contribute to the overall knowledge base for climate emissions in the pilot area. Master students from TU Delft worked on life cycle assessment of the Devold building, showing the environmental impact of demolishing the old building, and the advantages of reusing the concrete structure. A report on the environmental impact of cruise traffic and the effect of shore power will also be ready before the end of the year. There is an on-going study on cruise ship tourism led by the municipality, which has integrated findings from the Re-Value project.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*O1.1: Re-Value cities reach Fit for 55 objectives*

## **2.1.1.3 Contribution to intended outcomes and impacts**

### **Engage**

Throughout 2025, several participatory engagements helped strengthen the implementation of the Re-Value across diverse community groups in Ålesund. These activities brought together children, youth, university students, artists, pupils from local schools, and cultural organisations, creating a rich ecosystem of involvement around the Kulturhavna area and the wider pilot site. Workshops, cultural activations, and co-creative processes were used to both test ideas and build a sense of ownership among future users ([O2.2](#)).

A major highlight of 2025 was the third and final **Innovation Camp**, held from 16–23 September ([CDE9](#)). This edition brought together 44 NTNU university students to work on the theme of value creation in community development, with a focus on the protected 1907 building at Nedre Strandgate 15 ("pink building"). Participants followed a carefully structured process that included warm-up exercises, expert presentations, mentoring sessions, intermediate check-ins, and a final public pitch event. The winning proposal envisioned a seafood learning and experience centre that connects local maritime culture with sustainability principles. While communication with local politicians and stakeholders could have been stronger—and some students faced scheduling conflicts on the final day—overall engagement remained high, contributing to a total of almost 300 young people involved in the Innovation Camp programme since its start ([O3.2](#)). The final presentation was attended by the mayor and senior municipal administration, signalling the growing institutional relevance of the initiative ([O2.2](#)). Ålesund has found the Innovation Camps to be of tremendous help to engage and activate youth in the city.



*Picture 1: 3rd innovation Camp in Ålesund. (credit: Anna Dynak)*

A wide set of **participatory workshops** further enriched the project throughout the year ([O2.2](#), [O3.2](#)). On 27 February, a co-creation session was facilitated by a master's student, as continuation of the second Innovation Camp with the same participants. In the first quarter of the year, a series of three workshops on playground design gathered around 50 children and young people as part of a master's thesis exploring participatory design and temporality in Kulturhavna. Several other cultural and youth-oriented activations followed in the Devold building: a Youth Theatre event on 21 March, a Skating and Poetry session on 31 March, and a TRUST workshop on 23 April, each testing new activity types in underused buildings. On 8 May, art students collaborated with pupils from Aspøya school in a workshop exploring creative engagement with the area. The TRUST workshop in the Devold building was a preparation for the North-West festival where the students explored the topic of the festival, creating art that was displayed during the festival. On 24 May, a co-creation session focused on developing a musical narrative of Sørsida was held, culminating in an audio recording that further explored local identity and creative expression. Finally, on 10 June, a breakfast seminar on diversity gathered local stakeholders.

The first half of the year closed with a significant **educational collaboration** involving design students from Borgund High School, who had been using Kulturhavna and the mini houses as classrooms since January. On 18 June, around 50 students presented their final exam projects in interior design, developed in cooperation with SUAS, the library, and professionals in communication, branding, and dramaturgy. Their proposals, which included concepts such as a bakery and student housing, responded directly to real needs in the district. This collaboration helped build long-term relationships between young residents and the neighbourhood, embedding the Re-Value approach in everyday learning and local identity ([O2.2](#), [O3.2](#)).

## **Collaborate**

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From September to November 2025, Ålesund hosted five **master's students** from Delft University, who carried out a multidisciplinary project at Sørsida. The visiting students, supported by AK, compiled the technical study *Ålesund: A Dutch Perspective on a Future-Proof City*,<sup>7</sup> where they explored how the city could evolve into a resilient, adaptable and future-proof urban environment. AK/SUAS is actively seeking this kind of collaboration with master students around the pilot area, which not only strengthens the city's knowledge base but also allows the students to generate valuable insights for the project.

In the fall of 2025, Ålesund also participated in **Sister Space workshops** organised by IC1 and IC3, together with its sister city Rijeka. On 24 September the two cities worked together on a story building exercise for **IC1**, considering limitations and opportunities present in their Re-Value Pilots. Ålesund focused on the value of arts, culture and history in the city, and how that is linked to the development of the Sørsida Pilot area. Following this session, Ålesund will create a story on the history and future of Sørsida, emphasising the contribution of Re-Value in its transformation. The "Pink Building" is a central location for story-building, creating a link to the historical past of the area, a physical link to Aspøya and a location for demonstrating what the future of the area could be. A study into the history of this building was done in 2025, which forms an important basis for story-telling in the last year of the project. A one-on-one meeting is planned in the beginning of 2026 with IC1 to follow progress, and to further prepare for presenting the stories at the 2026 Consortium meeting ([R3](#), [O2.1](#)).

In the **IC3 Sister Space** on 5 December, Ålesund presented "Kulturhavna" – the temporary, tactical urbanism phase of the broader Sørsida waterfront redevelopment in the city centre. The pilot focuses on transforming former harbour logistics and parking areas into an active cultural harbour through low-cost, co-created temporary uses: student-designed furniture, dugnad-built playgrounds and sauna decks, and reactivated 1960s port buildings, all coordinated by the municipal special purpose vehicle Sørsida Utvikling AS (SUAS). Key learnings included the value of a municipal development company to negotiate with private investors, capture value, and maintain long-term public interests in a context where plans and actors change rapidly. At the same time, Ålesund highlighted challenges around deciding which industrial buildings to demolish or preserve, and the limited regulatory tools municipalities have to steer private-led planning. From Rijeka and the wider group, Ålesund received reflections on treating certain buildings as "protected boxes" whose precise future use can remain flexible, and on linking large-scale waterfront redevelopment to innovative energy solutions (e.g. energy communities) to reduce future operating and maintenance costs. As a follow-up, IC3 will prepare a "City Canvas" capturing the presentation and the discussion, as well as a guidance note on financing and partnership models relevant for each city.

## Tools

Continuing from initial workshops at the end of 2024, in 2025 Ålesund Kommune continued structured discussions with AugmentCity (IC2) and NTNU Ålesund as local partners on how to develop **scenarios** for the pilot area ([O2.1](#), [O4.2](#)). The scenario work focuses on exploring alternative development paths (e.g. with respect to the preservation of old buildings and addition of new ones) and layering in themes such as social value, nature-based solutions, climate ambition, legal constraints, and economic trade-offs. NTNU's contribution lies in integrating **nature-based solutions** into scenario thinking through decision-support tools. AugmentCity works to visualise the new Sørsida development and to improve how the project is communicated to local citizens, now that construction has begun. The **Graphical Digital Twin** was updated

<sup>7</sup> <https://repository.tudelft.nl/record/uuid:8f5cd58d-fbfa-4609-aed0-37852b241e7d>

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in 2025 to include concept building massing for Sørsida, along with two additional development sites further west along the shoreline. The Sørsida concept model was afterwards also upgraded to the architect's outline building models, providing greater fidelity and detail. AugmentCity is currently developing the 4D component of the Graphical Digital Twin, enabling the different stages of the construction process to be more clearly and effectively communicated.

In terms of use of other supporting tools and analyses, a complete **3D-scan** was performed in 2025 for the "Pink Building" and is available online for future tenants and other stakeholders. This technology has made great progress in the later years and is now an important co-creation tool and in use constantly (O4.2). Furthermore, **Life Cycle Assessment** was used by students in a technical study of Devold building. They also reviewed relevant standards such as "Future Built"<sup>8</sup> (O5.2). A mobility analysis was further used for the Sørsida area, using several specialised tools.

*Collectively, these activities have contributed to several intended outcomes and impacts of Re-Value:*

*O2.1: Leading Cities and Replication Cities take up the participatory Re-Value Story building, Scenario building and Investment & Partnership building strategies*

*O2.2: Citizens/professional stakeholders feel they contributed to the outcomes*

*O3.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities adopt the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol long-term*

*O4.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities embed long-term Re-Value's data-driven co-creation and scenario-building in decision support*

*O5.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities fully embed the participatory, circular and shared value chains in their Investment and Partnership Plans*

## 2.1.1.4 Communication and Dissemination measures

Ålesund updated its Re-Value Communication and Dissemination Plan in May 2025, which is available in deliverable D8.7<sup>9</sup> (CDE6). Throughout the year, a wide range of workshops and engagement activities were organised to communicate project progress and involve local stakeholders, including the third Innovation Camp held in December. All local workshops conducted in 2025 are summarised in the table below and further elaborated in the previous section (CDE1).

**Table 1: List of local workshops and activities performed in 2025.**

Date	Activity	Participants
26/02/2025	Workshop on playgrounds with children and youth	50
27/02/2025	Co-Creation workshop on playgrounds	50
21/03/2025	Youth Theatre in the Devold building, new activities in old buildings	130
31/03/2025	Skating and Poetry in the Devold Building	50

<sup>8</sup> [What is FutureBuilt | Futurebuilt](#)

<sup>9</sup> [D8.7: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Re-Value Cities 2](#)

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23/04/2025	TRUST-Workshop in the Devold building	25
28/04/2025	Organisation of open debate on the value of culture with national organization "Kulturrom" (Cultural spaces) during North West conference	50
08/05/2025	Workshop with Art-school and Aspøya school	17
08/05/2025	Culture in old buildings, scenario-building with stakeholders	15
24/05/2025	Co-creating musical narrative of Sørsida-Recording	100
10/06/2025	Breakfast seminar on diversity	60
18/06/2025	Design students (Borgund VGS) presenting their exams after workshop series at the Cultural harbour The exams were the finalisation of a collaboration throughout the first half of 2025.	50
16/12/2025	3rd Innovation camp	44

Beyond the local workshops listed in the table, several additional initiatives helped broaden the project's outreach and visibility. Re-Value continued its cooperation with the **North West Festival**, which was organised from 27–30 April 2025. The official launch of the co-creation platform for Kulturhavna was done then, while the project partners also organised a session to debate the value of culture. On 4 March 2025, the project team also took part in a public presentation and **panel discussion** on urban development in Sørsida organised with a local newspaper, strengthening dialogue with the wider community. Later in the year, Ålesund spoke at the **UP2030** conference in October, sharing its work on the Sørsida Kulturhavna initiative to create a cultural harbour through strong community engagement. The city emphasised the positive impact of youth Innovation Camps, which have gained significant attention from local media and institutions. Re-Value local partners have also been active in communicating and introducing visiting politicians, administration and other visiting parties to the project. In addition to workshops and other activities listed here, SUAS has financed numerous events within the pilot area where Re-Value has contributed and received exposure.

Ålesund participated in the first major multi-actor meeting for **Norwegian Mission and Mission-minded cities** in May 2024, organized by DOGA (Norwegian Agency for Design and Architecture) ([CDE12](#)). This forum included the three Norwegian Mission Cities, Oslo, Stavanger, and Trondheim, and has been active through bi-weekly check-ins and a physical workshop in Oslo in December 2024. Ålesund representatives from Innovation Support, the Climate Department, and the regional sustainability coordinator attended. In 2025, the city also took part in three workshops on New European Bauhaus values and a panel discussion in March, enabling exchange on Climate City Contract progress and governance innovations.

## 2.1.2 Bruges

### 2.1.2.1 Full-Scale Deployment of the Waterfront Pilot & Update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans

Bruges uses the Re-Value project as an experimental space to achieve spatial quality and climate neutrality in the Kaaidistrict, one of the city's key transformation districts. This work is part of Bruges' broader journey

toward long-term change. The Territorial Transformation Plan (TTP) is built on three main pillars: the climate plan, spatial policy plan, and concept study. A new spatial implementation plan is being prepared. Building on these foundations, Bruges is updating its TTP to reflect new insights and priorities together with full-scale deployment in the pilot areas.

Moving towards the last phase of the Re-Value project, Ålesund and Bruges took initiative in spring 2025 to discuss what “updating the TTPs” means for the cities, by drafting together how the “Updated TTP” deliverable for Re-Value should look like with the support of NTNU. The process and outcomes were summarised and shared with all cities and other project partners in fall 2025 to collect feedback and lead to a final guiding document for cities’ work and relevant deliverables in 2026 (see [R5](#)).

To systematically process and document insights gathered through the Re-Value Full-scale Deployment and TTP updating process, Bruges participated in the fall of 2025 in a series of thematic TTP Talks (see [R5](#)), to discuss with its sister city Písek some actions/measures from the pilot area, with goals, outcomes, needs/challenges, to gain new insights in the process of updating the city’s strategies and plans (TTPs). These were organised around some of Re-Value’s Systemic Challenges.

On 8 October, during the Cascais Study Visit and mini Consortium meeting, a **TTP Talk on nature-based solutions** was organised. During this workshop, and among other exchanges, Bruges discussed with Písek about the “implementation of the 3-30-300 framework” (i.e., every person should see at least 3 mature trees from their home or workplace, every neighborhood should have at least 30% tree canopy cover, and every person should be within a 300-meter walk of a high-quality public green space of at least 0.5-1.0 hectares). Bruges is actively planning a green-blue network, focusing particularly on expanding its urban canopy. Because of this, they would wish to learn more about, and work with, the 3-30-300 framework. Písek is already working with the framework, as reported in their Roadmap for the Re-Value Pilot. The discussion highlighted several needs among the participating cities, such as better collaboration between relevant aldermen (e.g., mobility, public domain), improved horizontal communication across departments, and better knowledge on the 30% green canopy index. New insights included starting/improving dialogue with the nature department, starting applying the framework in municipal projects, and considering adaptations for waterfront cities.

The second **TTP Talk on Energy and Mobility** was held online on 24 October. Bruges and Písek focused their discussion on the strategy to “Reduce cars’ space / use space for cars better”. Bruges is shifting car parking underground, freeing public space, by requiring developers to dedicate 40% of plots to green areas. The city also promotes flexible car space use through shared parking agreements (which they wish to achieve in the future) and better modal shift options via, for example, safe, close bike parking and lanes. Regulatory changes on private cars in public spaces are underway. The city of Bruges commissioned a mobility study following the concept study to help shape the future spatial programme. The sustainable integration with other urban functions—such as housing, offices, and neighbourhood-supporting facilities—will generate additional traffic in the future. A set of 37 actions to be implemented was developed in a dynamic mobility roadmap to ensure the neighbourhood remains liveable. The city evaluates this roadmap annually and shares the status with all involved stakeholders. Písek aims to turn its pilot area into a people-focused space, but faces resistance and strong beliefs about car use. Improvements in public transport, bike lanes, and modal shift options are needed to build trust in the alternatives to car use. Temporary measures remain unpopular, and previous “hard” solutions, like a new underground parking, failed without a behavioral change. Písek continues working to enhance public transport and educate citizens about the transition.

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During the discussion, several needs and new insights emerged to support implementation. Key needs included addressing cultural beliefs that hinder progress, such as concerns about shop closures or parking rights, and providing safe, convenient alternatives like bike parking closer than car parking. Participants also highlighted the importance of showcasing solutions through temporary projects and clear, engaging communication. Among the new insights were ideas to adopt bike-first street designs (already implemented in Bruges), involve schools to gather children's perspectives on car-free spaces, and use visual tools like "dream street" concepts to influence different stakeholder groups and get them on board.

The last **TTP talk** in 2025 was on **Cultural & Spatial quality**, organized on 2 December online. İzmir also joined the discussion with Bruges and Písek as it could not join the meeting with its sister city Burgas. After sharing extensive experience on the topic (mostly around urban transformation and community building), the cities directed their attention towards the topic of the "organization of cultural and creative activities" in the pilot areas. For Bruges, this relates (mostly but not only) to initiatives such their community festival (Kaaiparty), where the involvement of people and local businesses/actors in shaping the program, building ownership, was of great inspiration for Písek, where acceptance and trust are open challenges. In Bruges, it was found that door-to-door visits are time-consuming, yet very fruitful. By taking the time to speak with residents and allowing them to actively contribute to the organisation of the Kaai party and other community-building activities, a strong sense of support and engagement is created. The artistic missions in Písek (mobile city laboratory) and İzmir (involvement of primary school around the topic of flora and fauna in Kulturpark) have been an important experience for them. All cities agreed that, with various levels of success, these activities help build a connection between people and the transformation and set good examples for other actors in the city. Further needs include actions to sustain the transformations beyond Re-Value (prompting a meeting with the mayor in early 2026 for Bruges) and a sensitive, prepared and careful approach in complicated contexts, such as Písek's. Moving forward, connections between cultural and spatial quality remain a question, requiring deeper exploration of how artistic initiatives and urban design can reinforce each other.

Bruges shared an important lesson: advancing climate neutrality and spatial quality in waterfront developments requires both bottom-up and top-down actions, along with a shift in mindset. Looking ahead, the questions remain: *What will happen after Re-Value? How can we anchor activities related to the climate plan and spatial policy plan beyond Re-Value? Will a Kaai party be organised in 2027?*

The aim is to present our alderman in 2026 with an action plan for continuing the transformation of the Kaaidistrict after Re-Value. Which actions are needed to nurture the Kaaiklappers community and to achieve spatial transformation, both on private and public land?

Moving forward, there will be the last round of **TTP talk on Governance** in early 2026. The series of TTP talks serves as the bridge between the City Roadmap and the development of the city's final deliverables, namely D3.2: Full-Scale Deployment of the Waterfront Pilot in Bruges and D3.3: Updated long-term Territorial Transformation Plan towards climate neutrality by 2030, Bruges.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

*R6: Full-Scale Deployment in Leading Cities' Waterfront Pilots*

## 2.1.2.2 Fit for 55 objectives fss

In Bruges, the 'BruggeNaarMorgen' Climate Plan (Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) + scope 3 emissions) was approved by the municipal council in 2022. More than 200 actions, spread across seven different themes, together aim to reduce local CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 49% by 2030 compared to 2011. This will allow the city of Bruges to stay on track for a maximum climate warming of 1.5°C, which corresponds to isfthe Fit For 55 objective. The seven themes are: fossil-free heating, renewable energy, fossil-free mobility, circular economy, sustainable food, climate adaptation and 'Bruges organises itself'. The city is organising to get everyone on board. Many of these themes are linked to the concept study in the Kaaidistrict (2022) and the consequent Re-Value project. There is a yearly update and monitoring of the climate plan that is presented during an open network event for every citizen of Bruges. The chart below was shown during the last open network event in Autumn 2025. With respect to 2011, the local CO<sub>2</sub> emission of Bruges decreased by 30% (estimation). In November 2025 the revised strategic energy and climate plan, responding to the Fit For 55 objective, was approved by the city council. The BruggeNaarMorgen climate plan was updated to ensure it is optimally aligned with the social, technological, and political developments of recent years. The Re-Value goals and their actionable roadmap are regularly put under review of the climate plan in order to contribute to the KPI's of the climate plan.

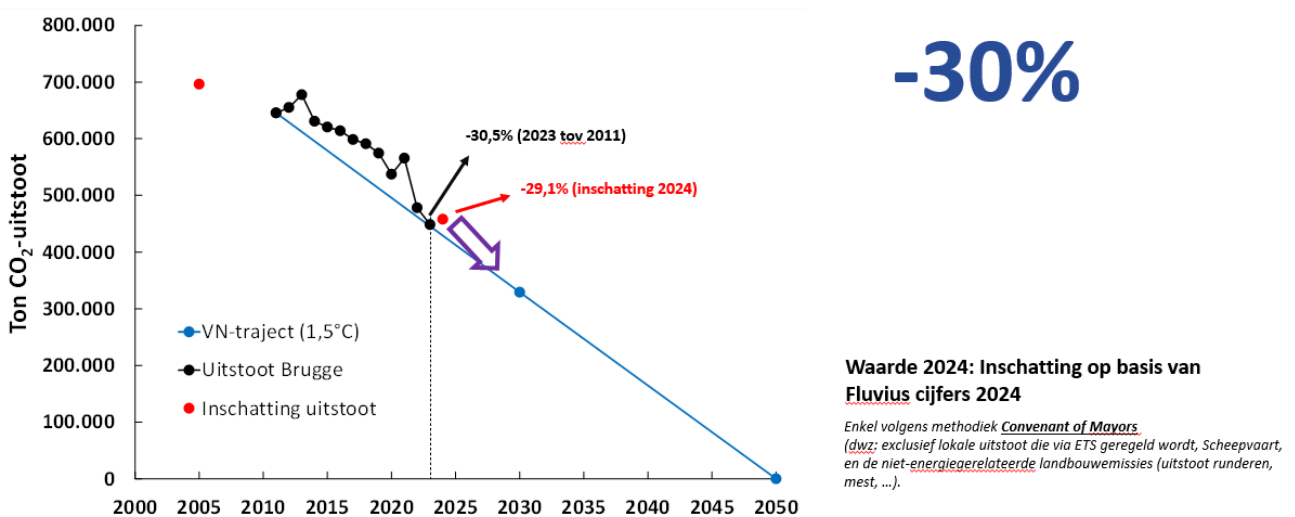


Figure 2: Evolution of the local CO<sub>2</sub> emission in Bruges.

These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:

O1.1: Re-Value cities reach Fit for 55 objectives

## 2.1.2.3 Contribution to intended outcomes and impacts

### Engage

Bruges involved people directly in decision-making through the City Atelier and co-creative masterplans. The Kaai Party and several workshops in 2024 and 2025 were organized in collaboration with the Kaaiklappers, a diverse group of developers, architects, homeowners, minority groups, and creative entrepreneurs. Door-to-door visits helped the city understand inhabitants' concerns ([O2.1](#), [O2.2](#)).

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A highlight of Bruges' inclusive engagement activity was the third **Innovation Camp** (O3.2). Building on two successful editions, the central question for this round was: *What does the city of the future look like?* Held in February 2025, the camp engaged 100 students from three Bruges schools, who presented innovative ideas for redeveloping the Kaaidistrict. Their concepts, focused on sustainability and circular urban development, were evaluated by a professional jury of policymakers and project developers. The winning team from Sint-Franciscus Xaverius Institute presented their sustainable concept "Aquabroeders" in which they focus on green roofs, water regulation using wadis (Water Drainage Drainage and Infiltration) and dry toilets.



**Picture 2: 3rd Innovation Camp in Bruges.**

## **Collaborate**

In the fall of 2025, Bruges participated in **Sister Space workshops** organized by IC1 and IC3, together with its sister city Písek.

In the **IC3 Sister Space** on 19 September, Bruges presented its *City Atelier* as a new cross-departmental advisory process being tested in the Kaaidistrict waterfront and gradually extended to other projects. The Atelier brings planners, mobility, environment, heritage and finance together early, using the NEB impact model to look at the wider value of projects instead of giving fragmented, late-stage comments. Key learnings were that a dedicated, recognised "one-stop" forum helps break silos, that bilateral prep meetings with department heads are essential to build trust, and that tools like the NEB Impact Model need to be kept simple and "good enough" to be usable by non-experts. Main challenges are scaling the City Atelier beyond a few pilots, integrating the Impact Model into everyday procedures, and making the added value visible in a context of limited staff time. In the discussion with Písek, they explored using smaller, thematic "mini-ateliers" and exchanging templates and scoring methods so that Písek's general assessment tool and Bruges' Atelier approach could reinforce each other. As a follow-up, IC3 prepared a "City Canvas" capturing

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the presentation and the discussion, as well as a guidance note on financing and partnership models relevant for Bruges ([R3](#), [O2.1](#)).

On 28 October, the two cities worked together on a story-building exercise for **IC1**, with a focus on using the Impact Model beyond the Re-Value pilot area ([O3.1](#)). In the meeting, Bruges presented the local “guidelines” document for future developers and investors, which integrated elements of the Impact Model, using the food hub as an example. The city also tested masterplans against the Impact Model and organized workshops to anchor the Impact Model in policy (September 2025). Together, the two cities explored what unique elements an “Impact Model Kit” could offer compared to other urban planning tools. IC1 followed up with Bruges individually afterwards, and Bruges will present this as a city story at the 2026 Consortium meeting ([R3](#), [O2.1](#)). As an outcome, NTNU will also follow up the Impact Model Kit development.

In parallel, local partner VITO is also in dialogue with Bruges to identify opportunities for strengthening data-focused **scenario development** ([R3](#), [O2.1](#)). The analysis contained detailed energy performance modeling and simulation for KaaiDistrict to explore potentials for investment on sustainable energy technologies. Energy demand for the district and solar energy, geothermal energy, and energy storage potential were explored. The current situation of the district was compared to an ambitious scenario for heavy investment on energy technologies and a moderate scenario targeting financially beneficial scenarios. Carbon emissions reductions were modelled and discussed for these scenarios to investigate local operational carbon emissions reductions achieved by the proposed scenarios. Moreover, the district was studied in smaller building blocks to allow for more detailed and targeted reporting. This highly granular analysis allows the city of Bruges to engage the very developer of the building blocks and provide them with detailed and quality analysis tailored for their development ([O4.2](#)).

In addition, Bruges is also exploring synergies with two EUI projects, Blue4Green<sup>10</sup> and Relaunchtown,<sup>11</sup> strengthening cooperation with other mission/NEB initiatives ([O1.2](#)). The city is working with partners to develop participatory, circular and shared value chains ([O5.2](#)). Examples include urban furniture made from neighborhood plastic waste and city trees, and recycled herb planters.

## **Tools**

The NEB Impact Model (IM) was introduced within the Kaaidistrict team through the Re-Value project. However, the team encountered difficulties in implementing and using the tool, even though its added value was recognised. The tool was designed as a support instrument for urban transformation, but so far it has been used more as a checklist than as a ‘tool to talk’. In practice, challenges were identified both in applying the NEB IM within city-wide policy processes and in using it for concrete environmental projects.

Therefore, NTNU and VITO were asked to engage in a more in-depth discussion on this topic, paving ways for Bruges to use the **NEB IM** in the long-term ([O3.1](#)). The workshop was organised in Bruges on September 10-11, 2025. On the first day, the focus was on exploring how the NEB IM could be applied within concrete environmental permit cases, projects in the Kaaidistrict (such as signage in the food hub), and the urban

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<sup>10</sup><https://portico.urban-initiative.eu/european-urban-initiative/blue4green-hydrating-city-combining-heritage-natural-and-high-tech-solutions-green-blue-challenges-6961>

<sup>11</sup><https://portico.urban-initiative.eu/european-urban-initiative/relaunchtownin-project-regenerative-local-actions-urban-challenges-wellness-and-innovation>

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studio. The second day looked at broader policy domains and how the NEB IM could be used there, for instance, in the design of public space.

Conclusion after the two days workshop:

The design of the NEB IM requires further development. Although the circular diagram is visually appealing, it creates limitations in terms of usability. The five pillars remain a strong starting point for guiding conversations. The “governance” pillar is an important one. The suggestion to position this pillar above the NEB IM was mentioned, but Bruges did not consider it necessary.

A digital version of the model would help increase its dissemination and enable more efficient use. Inspiration can be drawn from similar tools, such as the “NBS Explorer” from the nature4cities<sup>12</sup> project.

There is a need for a facilitator (internal or external) to guide the discussion in the right direction, especially when the model is newly introduced. The broad perspective of the model is often replaced by a tunnel vision on a single topic. Allocating time per pillar can help maintain a holistic view. The facilitator should be well-versed in the NEB IM, able to explain everything from the overarching vision to the indicators, and familiar with sufficient examples.

The meeting environment can also influence how the model is used. Although in-person meetings are preferred, a traditional meeting room can quickly lead people back into their own domain, causing the holistic approach to slip away. It is essential to create a positive atmosphere that is focused on solution-oriented thinking and supported by participants who have the mandate to make decisions. Consider alternative locations, rearranging tables, mixing teams differently, or using alternative time blocks.

The introduction of the NEB IM within city operations can occur both formally and informally. The model can initially be used as a freestyle tool, allowing teams to experiment and adjust it as new insights emerge from practice. A formal endorsement as an official tool can follow later.

Bruges should also make better use of the full potential of the NEB IM. The exploration of co-benefits has not yet been fully addressed. Both positive and negative linkages can be identified. By uncovering these challenges, we can ‘challenge’ them and adopt a more solution-oriented mindset.

The use of metaphors, as demonstrated in the presentation by Han Vandevyvere (VITO), can help introduce the NEB IM. The goal is: “Not everyone talking individually about one thing, but everybody talking together about everything.” The metaphor of a murmuration of starlings can support this: a well-coordinated team of city colleagues can change shape, move freely, and adapt to any situation to be effective. Unlike geese, there is no fixed leader; leadership shifts to the service best suited at that moment. You go faster alone, but further together.

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<sup>12</sup> <https://nbs-explorer.nature4cities-platform.eu/>



*Picture 3: an illustration of the use of metaphors (source: murmuration of starlings above Lough Ennell, Ireland. James Crombie).*

## **Policy**

During Re-Value, Bruges established the **City Atelier** as a collaborative hub for city departments to work together on transformational projects, aiming to reduce siloed approaches and improve efficiency in managing and assessing complex developments like the Kaaidistrict. The Bruges policy programme states that the City Atelier must be embedded in city-wide policy processes, thereby contributing to a solution-oriented service for environmental permit procedures. In 2026 the Re-Value team plans to disseminate this format and structure at higher levels of governance ([O1.3](#)). This initiative also contributes to embedding exploitable results in Re-Value cities ([O4.1](#)).

*Collectively, these activities have contributed to several intended outcomes and impacts of Re-Value:*

*O1.2: Active cooperation with other Mission/NEB initiatives*

*O1.3: Re-Value Policy Briefs inform policies at EU/national level*

*O2.1: LCs and RCs take up the participatory Re-Value Story building, Scenario building and Investment & Partnership building strategies*

*O2.2: Citizens/professional stakeholders feel they contributed to the outcomes*

*O3.1: Leading Cities and Replication Cities use the Re-Value Impact Model long-term*

*O3.2: LCs and RCs adopt the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol long-term*

*O4.1: Exploitable Results are embedded in Re-Value cities*

*O4.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities embed long-term Re-Value's data-driven co-creation and scenario-building in decision support*

*O5.2: LCs and RCs fully embed the participatory, circular and shared value chains in their Investment and Partnership Plans*

## 2.1.2.4 Communication and Dissemination measures

Bruges updated its local Re-Value Communication and Dissemination Plan in May 2025 (M41) as deliverable D8.7<sup>13</sup>(CDE6). In 2025, the City of Bruges also carried out a series of communication and engagement activities in support of the Kaaidistrict transformation and the realization of the Re-Value project's objectives, as shown in the table below (CDE1). These included local workshops, cultural events, and co-creation activities. While not all activities directly link to Re-Value ambitions, they contribute indirectly. The following table summarises the key activities that were carried out.

**Table 2: List of local workshops and activities performed in 2025.**

Date	Activity	Participants
07/01/2025	Local workshop - participation meeting masterplan retailcluster	20
19/01/2025	Local workshop - workshop willow tunnel	15
20/01/2025	Local workshop - city atelier Kaaidistrict	15
21/01/2025	Local workshop - Metting internal workshop food	15
10/02/2025	Local workshop - spread Valentine hearts	15
20/02/2025	3rd Innovation Camp	100
01/03/2025	Other - Kaaiklappers and Kaai party	120
27/03/2025	Local workshop - shredding plastics for bench in the Kaaidistrict	30
29/03/2025	Local workshop - Circular festival 2025	25
11/05/2025	Local workshop - Workshop Spinnerijpad (insect hotels, seed bombs, herb boxes)	15
18/05/2025	Local workshop - Kaai party	300
20/05/2025	Local workshop - congress public space	20
11/09/2025	Local workshop - NEB Impact model workshop	10
16/09/2025	Local workshop - Outreach Re-Value to colleagues of the city - excursion in the Kaaidistrict	30
18/09/2025	Local workshop - Afterwork brainstorm private housing area Kaaidistrict	15
28/09/2025	Local workshop - presentation policy program Bruges with Kaaidistrict	200
08/11/2025	Local workshop - visit Horeca Totaal with neighbours	20
01/11/2025	Other - article city Magazine	120
14/12/2025	Newsletter - publicity newsletter Sint-Pieters	5
25/11/2025	Local workshop - preparation meeting Kaai party with stakeholders	25

<sup>13</sup> [D8.7: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Re-Value Cities 2](#)

In addition, Bruges is an active member in **national networks**. The city participated in two key activities. On 12 December 2024, city representatives attended a one-hour session in Leuven, hosted by AWB during the 100 Neighbourhood Platform, which focused on financing models and mixes for inclusive, integrated investment projects. Around 30 participants attended, and the session included an open discussion. Later, on 20 May 2025, Bruges hosted a one-hour in-person session presenting the Re-Value actionable roadmap for the Kaaidistrict, with a focus on public space. Around 20 participants attended, including local officers and researchers, and an open discussion was held. No follow-up actions have yet been defined, but both sessions have inspired ideas and exchanges, and extensive reports are available ([CDE12](#)).

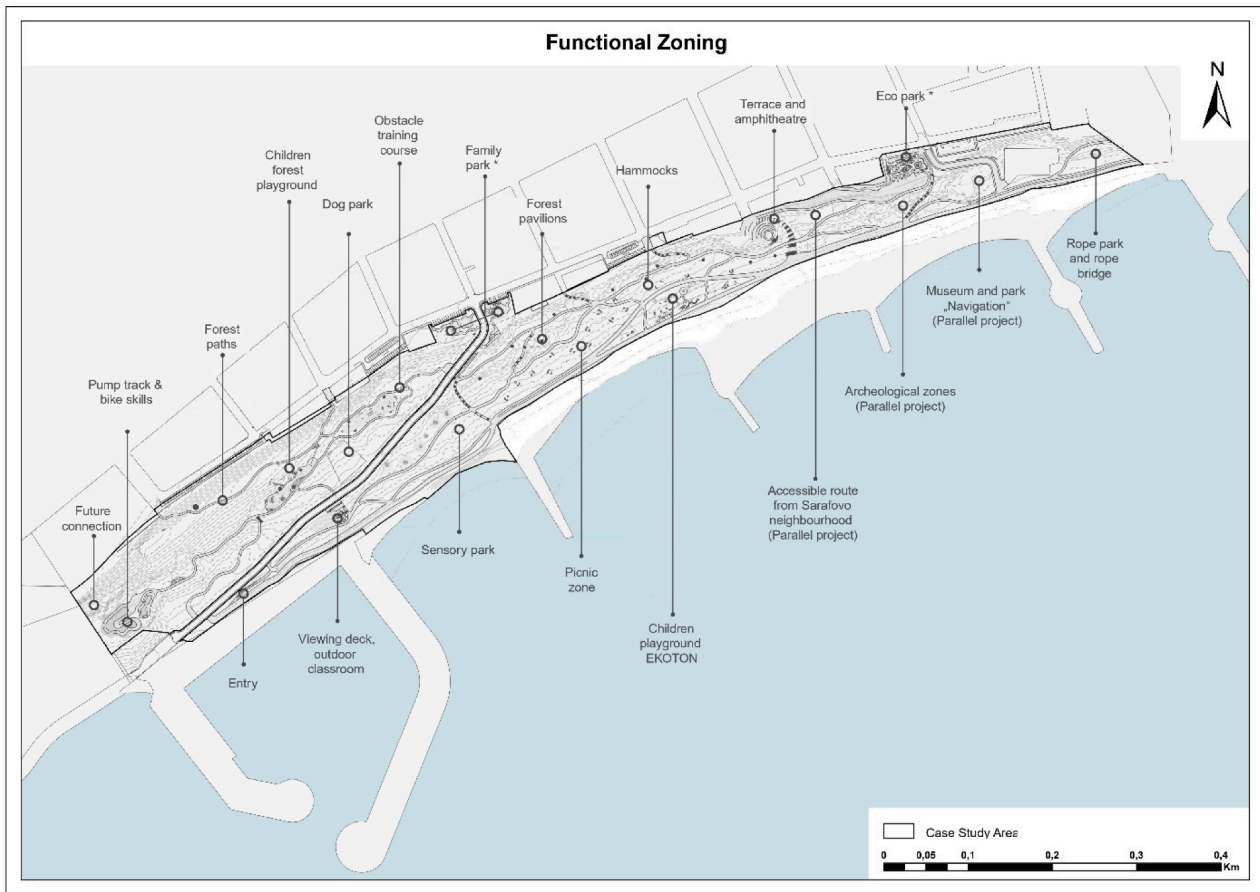
## 2.1.3 Burgas

### 2.1.3.1 Full-Scale Deployment of the Waterfront Pilot & Update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans

A milestone for the Burgas pilot in 2025 was the completion of the **technical design for the Coastal Park**, which created a coherent and accessible spatial structure that links the urban area, forest zone, and coastal strip. The plan organizes the park into smoothly connected zones for recreation, play, sports, and culture, using natural materials and updated park furniture to enhance comfort and usability. It introduces new viewpoints, selective vegetation openings, and interactive elements to improve landscape readability and visitor experience. The design prioritises high-quality green infrastructure through vegetation preservation, biodiversity features, and sustainable rainwater management. Thematically inspired play areas and open-air cultural spaces further integrate environmental education and artistic expression, while flexible areas support community events, workshops, and family activities.

As support to the Coastal Park project, a high-resolution **digital geospatial twin** of the coastal district was developed by Sofia University, using integrated aerial imagery, mobile laser scanning, and airborne LiDAR. The digital geospatial twin was used to generate high-precision data on land cover, terrain, vegetation, and geological risks, allowing planners and the park's designers to objectively identify green-space deficits, erosion-prone areas, and degraded zones within the coastal park site. This evidence directly guided the comparison of development scenarios and ultimately informed the design of a park concept that prioritises ecological restoration, safe and accessible pathways, climate resilience, and community-supported green infrastructure.

The design concept was presented to the local authorities in July, where it was well received and approved. It was decided to divide the project into four phases and to begin with the preparation of a complete technical design for Phase 1, which would be used to apply for national funding through a competitive procedure under the National Recovery and Resilience Plan. Funding of approximately €3.5 million has been approved, and a tender procedure to select a contractor for the construction of Phase 1 of the Sarafovo Coastal Park is currently underway.



**Figure 3: View of the technical design of the Coastal park in Sarafovo.**

Regarding **long term policy impacts**, in its Detailed Roadmap completed in 2024<sup>14</sup>, Burgas performed a detailed analysis of the policy and regulatory context for the Waterfront Pilot, particularly highlighting key municipal planning documents, such as the Plan for Integrated Development of Burgas (2021–2027), the Sustainable Urban Mobility Plan (2023–2031) and the Sustainable Energy and Climate Adaptation Plan (2021–2030). Through its work in the Re-Value Waterfront Pilot, the city has been integrating learnings and will use them to update those long-term Territorial Transformation Plans (TTPs).

Within the framework of Re-Value, the municipality is currently preparing together with academic partner Sofia University **strategic guidelines for integrated climate adapted territorial development of the coastal zones of Burgas**, with the Sarafovo district selected as a pilot. Prepared guidelines will supplement Burgas’s long-term Plan for Integrated Development with the aim of accelerating the territorial transformation and the city’s transition to climate neutrality. It will focus on the regeneration of the coastal areas to the North and South of the Burgas Bay, connecting the urban core with the two peripheral coastal residential areas of Sarafovo to the North and Kraimorie to the South, in the context of climate neutrality and integrated smart city systems. This will allow the relevant municipal spatial/management strategies to be grouped into a viable local portfolio, with identified priority sites and measures.

Furthermore, Burgas Municipality recently acquired state-owned waterfront property that includes a critical **coastal multi-use trail** connecting Burgas’ city centre and Sea Garden with the Sarafovo neighbourhood.

<sup>14</sup> [D4.1: Detailed Roadmap for the Waterfront Pilot in Burgas](#)

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This 10-kilometer trail also connects notable coastal destinations, such as the Natura 2000 Atanasovsko Lake, the Burgas Salt lakes, and the Port of Sarafovo and fisherman port Ugula. The trail was destroyed by coastal erosion, exacerbated by rising sea level and storm surges in winters in 2020. After a prolonged five-year process, the Municipality successfully secured ownership of the property. It has since prepared a technical design project that includes the installation of piles, rockfill, and a drainage system for surface and groundwater. Reconstruction of the first phase of the coastal strip, which includes the trail, is ready to begin and is expected to be completed within one year.



*Picture 4: Damaged coastal trail between Burgas' city centre and Sarafovo.*

To systematically process and document insights gathered through the Re-Value Full-scale Deployment and TTP updating process, Burgas participated in the fall of 2025 in a series of thematic TTP Talks (see [R5](#)), to discuss with its sister city İzmir some actions/measures from the pilot areas, with goals, outcomes, needs/challenges, to gain new insights in the process of updating the city's strategies and plans (TTPs), anchoring Re-Value pilot and learnings beyond the project. These were organised around some of Re-Value's Systemic Challenges.

On 8 October, during the Cascais Study Visit and mini Consortium meeting, a **TTP Talk on nature-based solutions** was organised. During this workshop, and among other exchanges, Burgas discussed with İzmir the benefits and needs of implementing strips of trees for pedestrians, as heat, lack of shading and outdoor discomfort are common challenges for the two cities. Despite the benefits of such a measure, difficulties gaining continuous political support as well as approval from the relevant departments/agencies were noted. Better dialogue and communication with the relevant stakeholders and the public were found to be important moving forward with such measures.

A **TTP Talk on energy and mobility** was held between the two cities on 23 October, where the topic of parking relocation was discussed. This measure would make space for integrating nature and reduce impermeability, improves safety and contributes to the reduction of heat island problems in the area, among other benefits. However, viable alternative mobility options need to be offered, taking into account

the needs of businesses, residents and users of the area. Several examples of other cities were shared here for inspiration.

Finally, a **TTP talk on spatial and cultural quality** took place on 26 November. In this instance Burgas shared a discussion with Ålesund and Rijeka, as İzmir couldn't attend the workshop. The city presented the Sarafovo Coastal Park technical design. A common theme to further discuss together was the topic of revaluing existing structures. These are buildings with historical value in the case of Ålesund and Rijeka, while for Burgas this concerns the regeneration of coastal green areas for the development of Sarafovo Coastal Park. Of great importance for this restoration project was the large public support for the urgent recovery of the connecting bicycle trail, given that it is an important coastal connection between the urban core of Burgas and the Sarafovo residential area. Besides, Burgas is planning multiple other small interventions in the park that will enhance cultural and spatial quality in the pilot. The city is further updating its Cultural Strategy, in light of its candidacy for European Capital of Culture 2032.

The completed TTP Talks, as well as an upcoming **TTP Talk on governance** in early 2026, serve as the bridge between the Detailed Roadmap and the development of the city's final deliverables, namely D4.2: Full-Scale Deployment of the Waterfront Pilot in Burgas and D4.3: Updated long-term Territorial Transformation Plan towards climate neutrality by 2030, Burgas. In these deliverables, Burgas' actions throughout its Re-Value journey (see also next section) and its experiences will be used as a basis to collect insights on the outcomes, needs and replication potential, as well as propose recommendations for the update of TTPs at city level.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

*R6: Full-Scale Deployment in Leading Cities' Waterfront Pilots*

### 2.1.3.2 Fit for 55 objectives

In 2023, the Burgas City Council approved two key planning instruments: the Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) and the Ordinance on Urban Spaces. These documents contribute to the city's alignment with the European Union's Fit for 55 objectives.

The Strategy for Sustainable Energy and Climate Adaptation (2023–2030) outlines several targets for 2030, including (baseline year is 2005):

- A 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions,
- A 32% increase in the share of renewable energy, and
- A 32% reduction in energy consumption.

The Sustainable Energy Development Plan 2011-2020 previously defined the following goals for reducing energy consumption and emissions for the municipality of Burgas:

- Reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the municipality of Burgas – 25% by 2020
- Reduction of energy consumption in the municipality of Burgas – 27% by 2020
- Share of renewable energy in the energy mix of the municipality of Burgas – 26% by 2020

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In the period 2005 and 2020, a decrease in final energy consumption by 207 GWh or 14% was observed, which is insufficient to achieve the 2020 goals. Greenhouse gas emissions decreased by 54 thousand tons of CO<sub>2</sub> or 7%. During the period, the share of renewable energy increased by 32 GWh, reaching 12% in 2020, excluding the contribution of cogeneration. Individual sectors have different contributions to achieving savings for the period, with the largest percentage reduction for the period in industry, municipal and residential buildings, while transport has continued to grow.

In the long term, by 2050, the goal for reducing greenhouse gas emissions should be 55% compared to their levels in 1990 or the chosen base year. The forecast for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 55% by 2050 indicates that they should fall below 360 thousand tons of CO<sub>2</sub>.

As part of the Re-Value project, Burgas is generating geospatial data through planned hyperspectral imaging to support analysis of climate adaptation potential in its coastal areas. This effort will be expanded to the whole area, in order to inform updates to the SECAP and the Plan for Integrated Municipal Development (2021–2027). In particular, the municipality plans to develop by 2026 a Coastal Masterplan with strategic guidelines in relation to climate-adapted urban development and spatial planning of the integrated coastal zone area predefined within the Plan for Integrated Municipal Development.

Relevant components from the Re-Value Impact Model and climate adaptation methodology are also being considered for incorporation into the Ordinance on Urban Spaces and the Program for the Improvement of Inner-Quarter Spaces (“My City, My Neighborhood, My Street”). These updates aim to align local planning tools with climate adaptation indicators and support the city’s broader sustainability objectives.

Furthermore, the Burgas team has identified in its Roadmap for the Waterfront Pilot actions that will lead to a reduction of carbon emissions in the area, such as the installation of solar panels and energy efficient lighting (as also shared in TTP Talks), and the promotion of sustainable mobility. Besides, the new design of the Sarafovo Coastal Park is expected to increase carbon storage from additional biomass by up to 27% compared to the current situation (equivalent to 11.4 tC/ha/yr).

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*O1.1: Re-Value cities reach Fit for 55 objectives*

### 2.1.3.3 Contribution to intended outcomes and impacts

#### Engage

In 2025, Burgas continued to engage the local population with co-creation and participatory activities that aimed to shape and refine interventions, strengthening the contribution to Re-Value’s expected outcomes. On 02-03 June 2025, Burgas held its third and last **Innovation Camp** ([CDE9](#)). The purpose was to gather innovative ideas for the transformation of the Mladost Sports Hall into a multifunctional green educational and community hub. The goal is to turn this building into an interactive exhibition space dedicated to sustainable lifestyles and adaptation to climate change. More than 80 students and young citizens of Burgas were invited to develop their own vision and provide ideas to make the space more interesting and attractive while also generating some revenue and respecting the themes of ecology, culture, and sports. The participants worked in teams and proposed bold, technological and socially significant innovations,

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ranging from energy-generating technologies and interactive educational features to eco-focused food, gardening.

The presented ideas will be considered as possible components in the real transformation of the Mladost Hall under the project "RELAUNCHTOWIN", funded by the "EUI - Innovative Actions" program. The two-day event proved that young people in Burgas are not only sensitive to the topic of climate, but also have a clear vision and creative potential to shape public spaces responsive to changing community needs that can be implemented in the urban environment. The Innovation Camp is another step towards building a generation capable of thinking and acting in sync with the principles of sustainable development ([O3.2](#), [O2.2](#)). More details will become available in deliverable D8.9: Innovation Camps Report 3, due in August 2026.

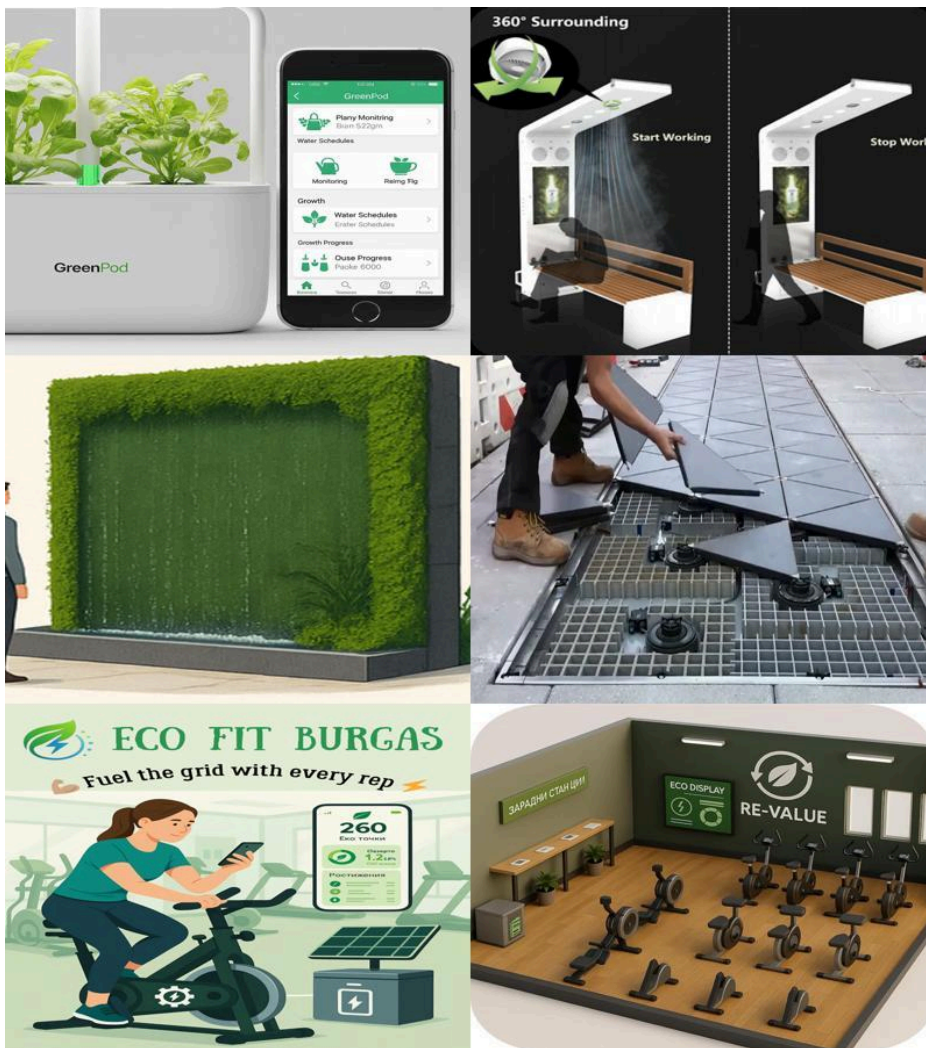


Figure 4: Overview of some of the proposed solutions at the 3rd Innovation Camp.

## Collaborate

The year began with the first meeting of Burgas Municipality's newly established **Local Unit for Sustainability and Climate Adaptation**, held on 27 February—an important milestone for the city's climate resilience efforts. This collective multidisciplinary advisory body is intended to support Burgas in adapting to and mitigating climate-related risks. Participants discussed priorities for strengthening community resilience

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and improving the urban environment, with Re-Value being one of the highlighted projects, and examined design concepts for climate-friendly interventions in Sarafovo and Zornitsa. The insights gathered during the meeting will inform further refinement of the concepts and shape the unit's upcoming actions and priorities.

Another important local **workshop** was held on 19 July, where participants from different parts of the municipality gathered to discuss the design concept for the Coastal Park in Sarafovo. The design concept was presented to the Mayor, Deputy-Mayor "Construction and regional development", Deputy-mayor and Director "Strategic development" Chief architect, and Director "Spatial planning". This was a key moment to convince the authorities of the merits of the project. Indeed, after this meeting the concept was approved and funding has already been secured for the execution of the first phase.

In the fall of 2025, Burgas participated in **Sister Space workshops** organised by IC1 and IC3, together with its sister city İzmir ([O2.1](#)). On 1 September the two cities worked together on a story building exercise for **IC1**, with as topic their common challenge of inter-departmental collaboration. Burgas is developing by June 2026 Strategic guidelines for climate adapted spatial development of Burgas coastal areas, and committed to involve all municipal departments from Construction and regional development, through Strategic development, Environment, Finance, Economy and maritime affairs, Tourism and sport, leading to sustainable, climate adapted and resilient coastal urban areas.

In the **IC3 Sister Space** on 21 November, Burgas presented the Sarafovo Coastal Park project: transforming a geologically complex, erosion-prone coastal slope between the neighbourhood, the airport and the port into a nature-based coastal park with walking and cycling paths, leisure zones, biodiversity areas and viewpoints, implemented in three phases. They highlighted key learnings: a phased approach and early coordination with all competent authorities reduce both technical and financial risk; resolving cadastral and regulatory inconsistencies at the beginning is crucial; and intensive community engagement (over 320 residents consulted and thematic zones co-designed) helps shift expectations away from car parking toward a greener public park. Major challenges include finalising the cadastral update, managing illegal construction and parking, balancing conservation with tourism in a highly seasonal area, and securing funding and maintenance arrangements for the later phases (beyond the first phase financed through regional/national programmes). In exchange with İzmir, Burgas reflected on how an explicit Nature-based Solutions (NbS) narrative had helped unlock funding and discussed borrowing ideas from İzmir's Digital Twin Roadmap and citizen design science to further evidence the park's benefits and use Sarafovo as a "living laboratory" for coastal resilience. As a follow-up, IC3 will prepare a "City Canvas" capturing the presentation and the discussion, as well as a guidance note on financing and partnership models relevant for each city.

## Tools

Finally, through its collaboration with Sofia University as academic partner within the Re-Value project, the municipality contributed to the publication of an open access scientific article titled "Digital Geospatial Twinning for Revaluation of a Waterfront Urban Park Design (Case Study: Burgas City, Bulgaria)"<sup>15</sup> ([CDE5](#)). The paper describes the development of a high-resolution **digital geospatial twin** of the Sarafovo district. The digital twin was applied to explore three alternative scenarios for restoring coastal functions and enhancing the Sarafovo Coastal Park, computing the carbon storage potential of vegetation. Preserving

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<sup>15</sup> [Digital Geospatial Twinning for Revaluation of a Waterfront Urban Park Design \(Case Study: Burgas City, Bulgaria\)](#)

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current vegetation results in a carbon storage level of 24.39 tC/ha/year, with the scenario focused on the construction of parking areas leading to a decrease of approximately 22%, while expanding and restoring vegetation could lead to a long-term increase in carbon storage of about 27.8%. These studies informed the final concept design, which was also presented, along with the different scenarios, at the City Space in Re-Value on 20 March ([O4.2](#)).



**Figure 5: Digital Twin model of the Sarafovo Coastal Park, depicting the scenario of increasing the green areas.**

Collectively, these activities have contributed to several intended outcomes and impacts of the Re-Value project:

*O2.1: Leading Cities and Replication Cities take up the participatory Re-Value Story building, Scenario building and Investment & Partnership building strategies*

*O2.2: Citizens/professional stakeholders feel they contributed to the outcomes*

*O3.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities adopt the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol long-term*

*O4.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities embed long-term Re-Value's data-driven co-creation and scenario-building in decision support*

## 2.1.3.4 Communication and Dissemination measures

The last version of Burgas' Communication and Dissemination Plan within Re-Value was submitted in May 2025, in deliverable D8.7<sup>16</sup> ([CDE6](#)). The third Innovation Camp in June was a major event aiming to involve

<sup>16</sup> [D8.7: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Re-Value Cities 2](#)

and inform the local youth about planned interventions in the area, with a focus on the repurposing of the Mladost Sports Hall ([CDE9](#)) (see more details in the previous section). Other activities aimed to engage local stakeholders and communicate the project progress, as summarised in the table below and elaborated in the previous section ([CDE1](#)).

Furthermore, in October, the municipality hosted the **international forum "Black Sea 2030: Partnership for a Sustainable Future"** that took place on 24 October in the city and gathered about 250 participants, including local and national representatives from five countries, European institutions, universities, civil society organizations and the maritime business. Four panels dedicated to the sustainable development of Black Sea municipalities, the protection of the marine environment and its adaptation to climate change, the development of maritime business, innovation and digitalization. The final technical design for Sarafovo Coastal Park was also presented during this event.

**Table 3: List of local workshops and activities performed in 2025.**

Date	Activity	Participants
27/02/2025	First meeting of the local unit for sustainability and climate adaptation	32
02-03/06/2025	3rd Innovation Camp: Climate-adapted urban development - focus on Mladost Sport Hall	76
03/06/2025	Presenting the Re-Value project to UGP+ Horizon project consortium	25
19/07/2025	Multidisciplinary municipal meeting for public discussion of the design concept for Coastal park Sarafovo	10
12/08/2025	"Black Sea Innovation Hub: Science, Innovation, Maritime Industries and Digital Connectivity" workshop	35
24/10/2025	Black Sea 2030: Partnership for sustainable future high level conference	250

Finally, as described in detail in the previous section, Burgas partners shared their work on the development of a digital twin for the Sarafovo district in an open access scientific article titled "Digital Geospatial Twinning for Revaluation of a Waterfront Urban Park Design (Case Study: Burgas City, Bulgaria)"<sup>17</sup> ([CDE5](#)).

## 2.1.4 Rimini

### 2.1.4.1 Full-Scale Deployment of the Waterfront Pilot & Update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans

Throughout 2025, the Municipality of Rimini has tried to take concrete steps toward the full-scale deployment of the Waterfront Pilot and updating the long-term Territorial Transformation Plans (TTP) within the framework of the Re-Value project. In 2024, the Re-Value project highlighted how the working methodology currently used in the municipality was not suitable for a city in transformation, revealing the challenge of driving change within a rigid and entrenched system. In 2025, Re-Value is encouraging the

<sup>17</sup> [Digital Geospatial Twinning for Revaluation of a Waterfront Urban Park Design \(Case Study: Burgas City, Bulgaria\)](#)

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Municipality of Rimini to adopt a new way of working, based on cross-sectorial and integrated co-design. Thanks to its complementarity with other European projects and the opportunities for exchange, discussion and learning it offers, Re-Value has provided a further impetus towards the integration of environmental policies in support of urban regeneration of the waterfront. As part of Re-Value, Rimini intends to explore new business models for the management and maintenance of green spaces in the new “Parco del Mare”, which could contribute to the economic sustainability of urban regeneration and greening of public spaces.

To systematically process and document insights gathered through the Re-Value Full-scale Deployment and TTP updating process, Rimini participated in the fall of 2025 in a series of thematic TTP Talks (see [R5](#)), to discuss with its sister cities Cascais and Constanța some actions/measures from the pilot area, with goals, outcomes, needs/challenges, to gain new insights in the process of updating the city’s strategies and plans (TTPs). These were organised around some of Re-Value’s Systemic Challenges.

On 8 October, during the Cascais Study Visit and mini Consortium meeting, a **TTP Talk on nature-based solutions** was organised. During this workshop, and among other exchanges, Rimini, Cascais, and Constanța discussed the possible implementation of tiny migrating forest (an example shared by UNG). Heat, lack of shading and outdoor discomfort are common challenges for the three cities. Rimini has already implemented new green areas in the pilot, but during the workshop was inspired to increase the greening in the city center. Although several benefits and opportunities from the implementation of this measure arise, the discussion also highlighted key needs such as identifying a suitable location and securing financial resources. New insights pointed to exploring potential sites and funding options, while ensuring the design delivers multiple functions—shading, information, monitoring, and leisure—tailored to local needs and goals.

The second **TTP Talk on Energy and Mobility** was held online on 23 October. Rimini and Cascais (Constanța was not present) focused their discussion on slow mobility. Rimini has a clear direction on mobility, thanks to the urban plan for sustainable mobility. For example, the city is developing the “bicipolitana” cycle network for Parco del Mare, reinforcing public transport (e.g., “metromare”, “shuttlemare”), and promoting walking and cycling through, e.g., school programs. Several benefits of slow mobility were highlighted, including better air quality, reduced emissions, and improved access to the coast, while key needs such as enhanced infrastructure, safety, and community/political support for change emerged as some of the priorities moving forward. New insights emerged from the discussion, such as the possible creation of a soft-mobility masterplan and the use of creative ideas to boost slow mobility. For example, a rewarding system for rented bikes that supports both sustainable travel and local businesses (as emerged in Cascais Innovation Cycle sessions).

The last **TTP talk** in 2025 was on **Cultural & Spatial quality**, organized on 27 November online. The discussion focused on Living Streets and Street Refurbishment, with Cascais and Constanța joining the discussion (Unfortunately, Rimini could not attend).

After sharing their ongoing actions, Constanța and Cascais turned to the question of how to reclaim streets as people-centered spaces. For Cascais, this ambition concerns both pilot areas, namely Carcavelos and Guia. While changes in Guia seem less complex, Carcavelos remains dominated by cars, with wide roads and extensive parking. Cascais envisions a step-by-step approach: starting with quality improvements such as PV urban furniture, shading elements, and water-saving landscaping, before moving toward street closures. The concept builds on pillars of People, Projects, Partnerships, Sharing, and Belonging. Constanța already started this process and is working on a mobility plan for the Peninsula area aligned with zero-emission and

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car-free goals. Their first priority is pavement refurbishment, seen as essential to gain support for further actions like greening and pedestrian routes. Both cities agreed that these measures can create social cohesion, support sustainable tourism, and add new value into urban spaces. However, challenges remain: ensuring spatial equality, securing political backing, and addressing financial constraints. The discussion highlighted the importance of starting small, building momentum, and using good examples (including some from Rimini) to convince stakeholders.

New insights emerged around quality management and funding. Constanța shared lessons from past setbacks where regulatory changes failed due to stakeholder resistance, stressing the need for a different approach this time. Both cities recognized that while strategies exist, implementation often stalls due to fragmented funding. Moving forward, cities aim to exchange knowledge on management challenges, leverage co-benefits through the Impact Model, and explore some good examples. Sustaining these transformations beyond Re-Value will require integrated funding pipelines and continued political dialogue.

Although Rimini couldn't join the TTP Talk on Cultural & Spatial Quality, the city is actively engaged in this topic. Its experience in strategic planning since 2007 has shaped a vision where public space plays a fundamental role in liveability. Public spaces fulfil multiple social, cultural, and economic functions, making them essential for urban sustainability: they improve public health by enabling a healthy lifestyle and promote social relations and community cohesion.

The Rimini "Parco del Mare" project, whose concept was developed within this strategic framework, characterised from the very beginning by a strong community-based component, and tried to give shape to this vision by creating a high-quality space where "natural" space is made available for functions dedicated to "well-being", capable of appealing to many different sections of society and already identifiable with Rimini, with its history and its vocation as a tourist city open to relationships.

However, Rimini's main challenge in the coming years will be covering the high maintenance costs, especially for greenery and irrigation, without putting too much pressure on the municipal budget. The city also aims to improve coordination between public and private investments and raise awareness of the positive impacts for the whole community.

Moving forward, there will be the last round of **TTP talk on Governance** in early 2026. The series of TTP talks serves as the bridge between the City Roadmap and the development of the city's final deliverables, namely D5.2: Full-Scale Deployment of the Waterfront Pilot in Rimini and D5.3: Updated long-term Territorial Transformation Plan towards climate neutrality by 2030, Rimini. Ultimately, the full-scale deployment of the pilot is expected to play a key role in the ongoing territorial transformation process and influence the forthcoming General Urban Plan. As part of its path toward this new plan, the Municipality of Rimini is using the Re-Value project in the Parco del Mare pilot areas to test and analyze innovative solutions and approaches. This work highlights that urban regeneration is a complex, holistic process that must consider the social, economic, and cultural impacts of policies and urban transformations.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

*R6: Full-Scale Deployment in Leading Cities' Waterfront Pilots*

## 2.1.4.2 Fit for 55 objectives

In 2022, the City of Rimini reaffirmed its climate and sustainability commitments by updating its Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) in accordance with the Covenant of Mayors guidelines as a signatory of the Covenant of Mayors. Approved by Council Decision in September 2022, the revised SECAP set new targets aligned with the European Union's Fit for 55 objectives, including:

- A 55% per capita reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 2010 levels, or
- A 40% reduction of total local emissions.

The Municipality of Rimini has completed the first qualitative monitoring of its Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (PAESC) through Resolution No. 251 dated July 29, 2025. The PAESC includes 43 actions: 20 focused on emission mitigation and 23 on climate adaptation. All actions have been launched, with two already completed. Key achievements include:

- Renovation of 208 ACER housing units
- Installation of 102 out of 149 planned electric charging stations
- Initiatives to combat energy poverty, including the creation of the first Renewable Energy Community (CER)

This monitoring is qualitative; a quantitative report with updated data on energy consumption and emissions will be published in 2026–2027. The Municipality reaffirms its commitment to building a more sustainable and equitable city.

In 2024, the Municipality of Rimini launched a new initiative: the development of its first Renewable Energy Community (CER). This action, now underway, involves a public-private partnership to implement energy efficiency measures on municipal sites and to design, build, and manage six photovoltaic plants on municipal buildings or land for 20 years. These plants will produce renewable energy for Rimini's citizens.

On November 13, 2025, the "COMUNE" **Energy Community** (CER) was officially established as a non-profit association registered in the National Third Sector Register. It is open to all citizens and businesses across the municipality. The creation of CER COMUNE marks one of the final steps in a partnership launched months earlier to bring together citizens, businesses, and the local administration to produce and share clean energy. In the coming months, CER will benefit from 1.7 megawatts of renewable energy systems installed on municipal properties and land. More than 100 families and businesses have already submitted pre-membership requests to join Rimini's CER.

This initiative also addresses **energy poverty**. The Covenant of Mayors template will include the required information for such actions. Another measure in the SECAP focuses on energy efficiency improvements in public housing, started in 2020 by the public property management agency, to enhance the sustainability of the entire housing stock. Ongoing monitoring of all mitigation actions will make it possible to redefine objectives and provide a clear picture of the indicators set out in the SECAP.

As part of the Re-Value project, Rimini is piloting the regeneration of a coastal district to support integrated urban transformation. Rimini is using insights from the Re-Value Impact Model, such as life cycle assessment tools, sustainability indicators, and participatory diagnostics, to inform the revision of additional planning

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instruments beyond the SECAP, including the General Urban Plan and future strategies for sustainable tourism and urban regeneration.

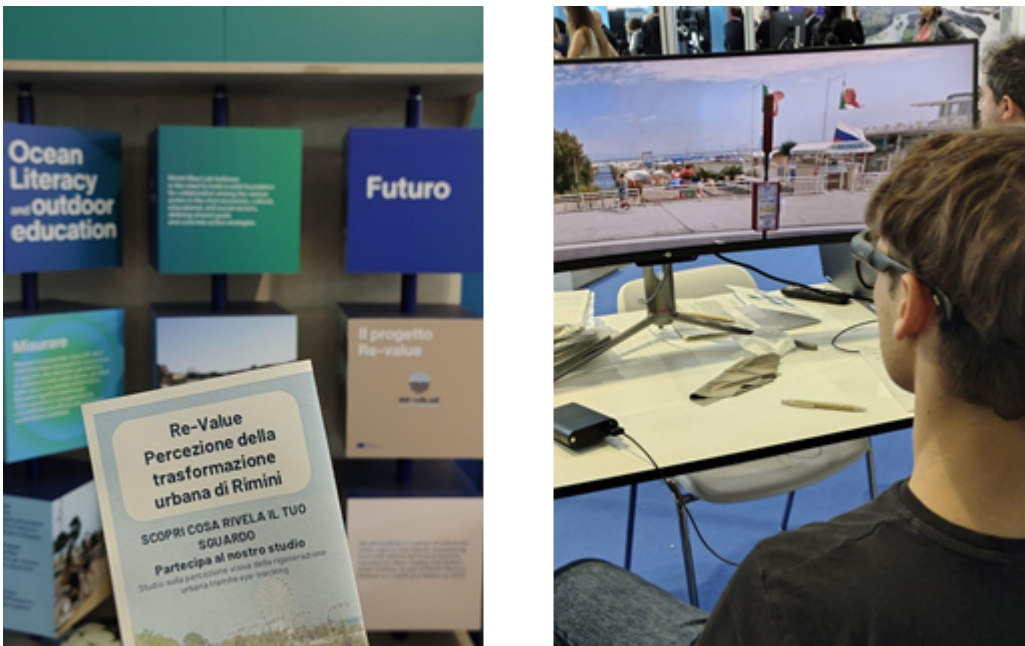
*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*O1.1: Re-Value cities reach Fit for 55 objectives*

## 2.1.4.3 Contribution to intended outcomes and impacts

### Engage

The Municipality and the University of Bologna held a **stakeholder meeting in San Giuliano** in May 2025 to present the progress of the final project and share preliminary results from the Urban Transformation Agenda for Sustainable Development (ATUSS) study, based on indicators developed through Re-Value and the Impact Model approach ([O2.1](#), [O2.2](#)). Participation also extended to ECOMONDO 2025, where Rimini showcased Re-Value at the Rimini Blue Lab stand. During the four-day fair, an experiment on the perception of urban transformation along Rimini's waterfront was conducted by the University of Bologna (DICAM) for secondary school students visiting the stand. Six schools participated, involving 15 classes and 317 students. They completed questionnaires on their perception of the seafront and took part in an eye-tracking experiment, providing valuable insights into the impact of waterfront regeneration and best practices for other pilot cases.

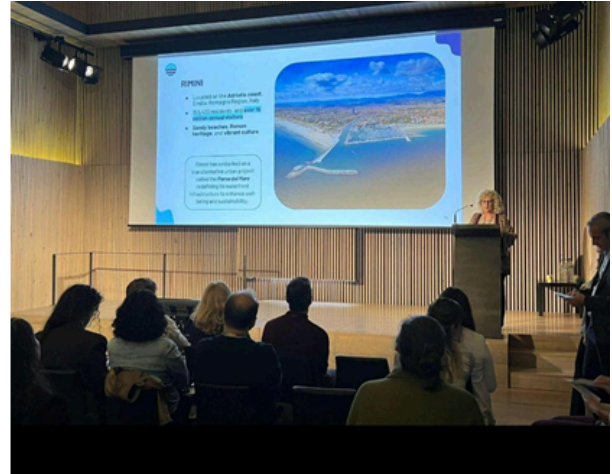


**Picture 5: ECOMONDO 2025.**

Moreover, Rimini hosted the third round of **Innovation Camp** with 67 students in March, focusing on urban sustainability & coastal revitalisation (Parco del Mare). These efforts show a strong commitment to inclusive participation ([O3.2](#)).

In November, Rimini participated in the UP2030 “Cities in Action” conference (sister project of Re-Value) in Barcelona, presenting the transformation of the San Giuliano District and Parco del Mare. The Re-Value

delegation shared waterfront stories in the plenary session “Urban Planning for Climate Impact”. They also contributed to the discussion “Rethinking the Waterfront: City Stories of Climate Action.” Rimini highlighted how their waterfront pilots integrate nature-based design and wellness-oriented infrastructure to reconnect residents with the coast. These exchanges provide valuable insights and show active collaboration with other Mission/NEB initiatives ([O1.2](#)).



Picture 6: “Cities in Action” session at UP2030.

## Collaborate

Rimini strengthened **cooperation with European initiatives** such as LIFE HELP and CO-WATERS ([O1.2](#)). Inspired by LIFE HELP’s governance model, Re-Value expands this approach beyond environmental issues to create an integrated, cross-sectoral framework aligned with the General Urban Plan. Collaboration with CO-WATERS supports knowledge exchange on resource reuse and contributes to the vision of the New European Bauhaus. These synergies foster systemic planning and reinforce Rimini’s commitment to sustainable urban transformation.

In the fall of 2025, Rimini participated in **Sister Space workshops** organized by IC1 and IC3, together with its sister cities Cascais and Constanța. On 15 October, the three cities worked together on a story-building exercise for **IC1**, with a focus on waterfront cultural identity and reconnecting people with water and their historical background. The session used a romantic approach to help cities bridge cultural identity and climate neutrality goals through storytelling. Each city faces unique challenges related to memory, tourism, transformation, and belonging at its waterfront. IC1 followed up with Rimini individually afterwards, and Rimini will present this as a city story at the 2026 Consortium meeting ([R3](#), [O2.1](#)).

For **IC3**, the city convened on 13 November with IC3 partners and Cascais and Constanța to discuss their pilot, barriers and enablers for project implementation, and pathways to partnerships and financing. Rimini presented Parco del Mare, a long-term regeneration of approximately 16 km of seafront that replaces car-dominated grey infrastructure with green infrastructure, cycling and walking paths, open-air gyms and public spaces, about 70% of which is already completed, funded by a mix of state, regional, recovery and municipal funds. Their main learning is that properly designed green infrastructure delivers ecosystem services—health, cooling, property value and attractiveness benefits—that justify treating green as a strategic investment rather than a cost, and that this requires a cultural and political paradigm shift. The key challenge now is how to finance high maintenance costs (especially for greenery and irrigation) without overburdening the municipal budget. At present the in-house company Antea handles maintenance, fully

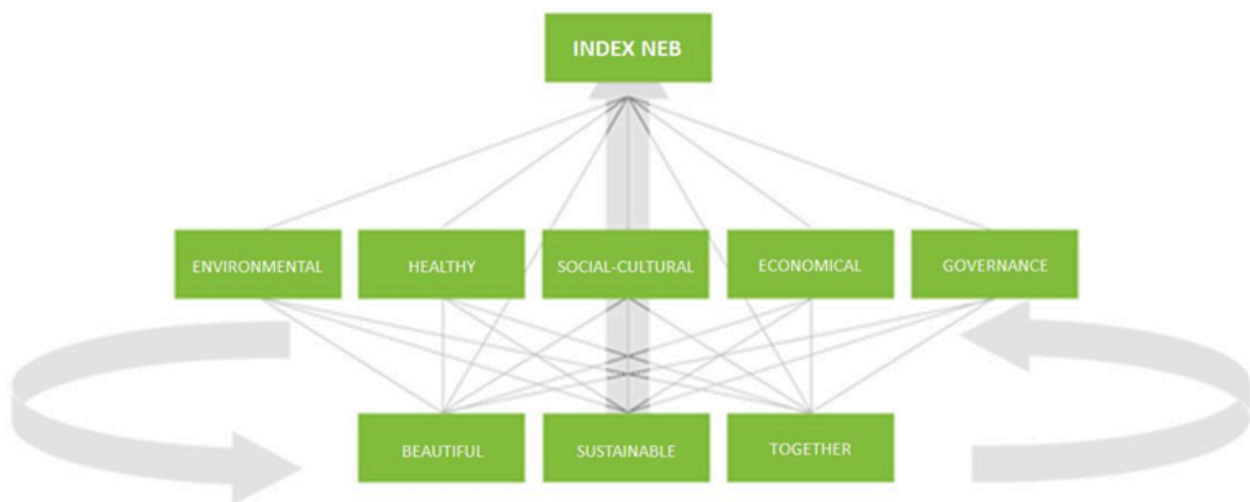
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paid by the city, and attempts to involve private actors have been limited by high costs, low trust and poor synchronisation of public and private investments, as well as resistance to a largely car-free seafront. In discussion, Constanța shared its tourism tax on operators as a model for channeling funds to coastal maintenance, while IC3 experts suggested special taxation overlays and partnership models; these inputs reinforced Rimini’s plan to use a forthcoming socio-economic study on Parco del Mare’s benefits as a basis for designing new contribution schemes for hotels, beach operators and other beneficiaries. As a follow-up, IC3 will prepare a “City Canvas” capturing the presentation and the discussion, as well as a guidance note on financing and partnership models relevant for each city (R3, O2.1).

## Tools

The **Impact Model** is being applied to monitor the progress of the “Parco del Mare” initiative, testing the potential to use it in the long-term (O3.1). This tool enables Rimini to evaluate completed activities, identify gaps, and prioritize next steps based on data from surveys and citizen workshops.

To achieve this objective, the study carried on by the University of Bologna, local partner of the municipality of Rimini, employs a composite index evaluation based on the Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) to assess the impact of NEB principles. The KPIs are structured hierarchically, and an expert survey is conducted to evaluate their relevance to the district. To further refine the weighting of indicators, a participatory approach is implemented, engaging both stakeholders and experts to define relationships between KPIs and calculate a correction coefficient. Once the final weights are determined, the AHP model aggregates pre- and post-intervention data to compute the **NEB performance index**, which quantifies the overall effectiveness of the projects in enhancing sustainability, social cohesion, and urban aesthetics in addition to promoting informed decision-making, continuous improvement, and effective monitoring throughout the project.



**Figure 6: composite NEB index based on AHP**

*Collectively, these activities have contributed to several intended outcomes and impacts of Re-Value:*

**O1.2: Active cooperation with other Mission/NEB initiatives**

O2.1: LCs and RCs take up the participatory Re-Value Story building, Scenario building and Investment & Partnership building strategies

O2.2: Citizens/professional stakeholders feel they contributed to the outcomes

O3.1: Leading Cities and Replication Cities use the Re-Value Impact Model long-term

O3.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities adopt the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol long-term

## 2.1.4.4 Communication and Dissemination measures

Rimini updated its local Re-Value Communication and Dissemination Plan in May 2025 (M41) as deliverable D8.7<sup>18</sup> (CDE6). In 2025, Rimini conducted a range of local workshops and events to engage citizens and stakeholders in discussions around the Rimini Municipality's Sustainable Urban Development Strategy projects, involving the pilot areas (CDE1), as summarised in the table below.

**Table 4: List of local workshops and activities performed in 2025.**

Date	Activity	Participants
06-07/03/2025	3rd innovation camp	67
07/03/2025	Stakeholders' meeting	20
03/04/2025	Festival dei 7 Capodogli- Vasto a Rimini Insieme per l'Adriatico nel nome dei Capodogli del loro e del nostro mare	35
April – June 2025	Participatory Workshop for Children and Youth.	40
May 2025	Participatory Path with University Students	50
21/05/2025	Stakeholders meeting inside ATUSS project	36
28/09/2025	FIUMANE	150

Youth involvement has been an important element of Rimini's engagement efforts (CDE9). After two rounds of Innovation Camps, the third Innovation Camp in March was a major event aiming to involve and inform the local youth about urban sustainability & coastal revitalisation in Parco del Mare (see more details in the previous section). Between April and June, Rimini hosted a **Participatory Workshop for Children and Youth**, which was a creative journey for young citizens aged 9 to 18. Guided by educators and "atelieristas", participants explored imagination, perceptions, and needs of childhood and adolescence in relation to the seaside city. The process resulted in a co-created artwork and a publication presented to the community, engaging around 40 participants. In May, a **Participatory Path with University Students** was launched in collaboration with UNIBO, including Rimini Campus students from Wellness, Fashion, and Tourism courses. This initiative supported the participatory regeneration of the city under the Municipality's Sustainable Urban Development Strategy, involving 50 students. On September 28, 2025, Rimini celebrated **World Rivers Day** with "FIUMANE," an afternoon of meetings and performances for the local community, featuring

<sup>18</sup> [D8.7: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Re-Value Cities 2](#)

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a special focus on projects linked to the Municipality's Sustainable Urban Development Strategy. The event brought together around 150 participants. In November, Rimini participated in **ECOMONDO** and showcased Re-Value at the Rimini Blue Lab stand, where an experiment on waterfront transformation perception was conducted by the University of Bologna for secondary school students (see details in previous section).

Rimini further participated in the **UP2030** "Cities in Action" conference in Barcelona in November (see details in the previous section), sharing its waterfront transformation and lessons with a wider European audience as part of Re-Value's Communication and Dissemination activities.

In terms of broader engagement with Italian and European cities ([CDE12](#)), Rimini joined the **Italian Mission Cities Network "Let's GOv"** in 2024 as part of the pilot project connecting nine Mission Cities. This initiative focused on governance innovations in stakeholder engagement, data management, and financing for decarbonization. Mutual learning activities extended to Follower cities through the Let'sGOv Observatory. While the pilot phase has concluded, Rimini continues collaboration through informal knowledge-sharing initiatives and participation in upcoming national events, including an ICLEI-organized "better funding dialogue" with Italian financial institutions and government representatives. Also, the city of Rimini will host the 2026 Velo-City sustainable mobility conference. These initiatives reflect a strong outward-facing orientation and contribute to positioning Rimini as a dynamic actor in European urban innovation.

## 2.2. Replication Cities

### 2.2.1 Cascais

#### 2.2.1.1 Detailed Roadmap

Cascais finalized the *Explore* part of its Detailed Roadmap in June 2025 (M30),<sup>19</sup> building upon a first draft prepared for internal use in June 2024.

In this document, the Re-Value Cascais team outlines Cascais' waterfront pilots within the Re-Value project, focusing on the municipality's dynamic coastal zone and its role in identity, heritage, and economic vitality. It highlights the challenges posed by climate change, such as sea-level rise, biodiversity loss, and coastal erosion, and the need for integrated solutions to ensure long-term sustainability.

The first chapter introduces the pilot areas, including Guia Road and Carcavelos Beach, and examines existing policy frameworks, renewable energy potential, building energy efficiency, and mobility strategies. It also details engagement efforts, from participatory story-building and data-driven approaches to stakeholder mapping, climate action activities, and innovation camps.

Through the Re-Value project, Cascais is testing innovative, community-driven solutions for urban planning and energy transition in waterfront areas, emphasizing participatory design, data-driven scenarios, and inclusive governance models. Insights from the Impact Model workshop inform scenario-building and assess the applicability of Re-Value's tools in local decision-making. This document further identifies opportunities and challenges for the pilots and sets out an action plan for active experimentation. This includes feasibility

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<sup>19</sup> [D6.4 Detailed Roadmap for the Waterfront Pilot in Cascais](#)

studies, public-private partnerships, artistic missions, and continued engagement through events and online platforms, all aimed at advancing climate neutrality and inclusive urban transformation.

The second *Implement* part of the Detailed Roadmap will describe in more detail the results achieved through Re-Value's Innovation Cycles, and it will outline an implementation roadmap to ensure a structured transition toward climate neutrality. This part of the Roadmap works as a link to the TTP deliverable.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

## **2.2.1.2 Update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans**

The work on identifying the plans and strategies that are relevant for the sustainable urban development of the Waterfront Pilot and the transition of the city to climate neutrality began already in the “Explore” phase of the project and are reported in the Detailed Roadmap of the city (see previous section). This formed the first step towards the update of the city's long-term Territorial Transformation Plans (TTPs).

In the fall of 2025, Cascais connected with its sister cities Rimini and Constanța through a series of thematic TTP Talks (see [R5](#)), to discuss some of their actions/measures, in terms of goals, outcomes, needs and challenges, to gain new insights in the process of updating those plans. The outcome of these workshops can be consulted under Rimini's relevant section [2.1.4.1](#).

TTP Talks were valuable for the City of Cascais, offering comparative perspectives on shared urban challenges drawn from the experiences of Constanța and Rimini, including lessons from Rimini's “Parco del Mare” project. These exchanges helped the city to better understand how similar transformations could be adapted and implemented locally. The first TTP Talk on Nature-Based Solutions opened space for new ideas (some simple yet impactful, such as pocket gardens) that can mitigate heat-island effects, increase shading, and improve outdoor comfort. The session on Energy & Mobility enabled the identification of new opportunities, including integrating photovoltaic systems into urban furniture, deploying smart public lighting, and strengthening the Nova SBE Energy Community. Finally, the Cultural & Spatial Quality discussion prompted Cascais to reflect on the motivations behind current actions, such as fostering social partnerships, increasing climate literacy, supporting social cohesion, and promoting sustainable tourism. Altogether, these sessions clarified where Cascais should deepen its TTP work, providing inspiration and direction for the next steps.

As a continuation of the work initiated in their Roadmap and explored further during the TTP Talks, in 2026 Cascais will further examine the main activities performed or planned during the Re-Value project through a policy lens, and will integrate the insights and recommendations into deliverable D6.11: Updated long-term Territorial Transformation Plan towards climate neutrality by 2050, Cascais.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

## 2.2.1.3 Fit for 55 objectives

The European Climate Law sets a 2030 goal of reducing net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% compared to 1990 levels, supported by the comprehensive “Fit for 55” legislative package. In Portugal, this ambition is mirrored through the National Energy and Climate Plan 2030 and the Roadmap to Carbon Neutrality 2050. Municipalities play a key role in this transition by fostering inclusive, locally tailored climate actions.

The “Cascais for the Climate Mitigation Plan” focuses on short-term operational actions aimed at meeting the 2030 target, primarily by implementing the measures outlined in the “Sustainable Energy Strategy 2030.” The plan includes 40 decarbonisation measures, which are estimated to reduce annual emissions by 69kt CO<sub>2</sub>e. Of this total, 56kt CO<sub>2</sub>e corresponds to stationary energy and transport sectors, directly impacting the municipality's GHG emissions.

Building on previous efforts, the **Municipal Climate Action Plan of Cascais** (PMAC) is presented as a strategic instrument to guide the municipality's climate transition, defining clear objectives and actions to foster environmental, economic, and social sustainability. The PMAC is structured around two main components: mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The mitigation component includes an assessment of the municipality's greenhouse gas emissions profile, comparing the years 2015 and 2023. In 2023, the municipality of Cascais had a net emissions balance of 481,050 tCO<sub>2</sub>e, emitting 486,169 tCO<sub>2</sub>e and absorbing 5,119 tCO<sub>2</sub>e. The transport sector is the largest contributor to emissions, accounting for 58% of the total, and includes emissions associated with fuel consumption in road, rail and aviation transport. Next is the stationary energy sector, which contributes 34% of emissions, proving equally relevant in the region's emissions profile. The Waste and Wastewater sector accounts for 7.08% of the municipality's total emissions. Additionally, decarbonisation scenarios were developed in line with the National Roadmap for Carbon Neutrality 2050, allowing the evaluation of potential emission reduction pathways and Cascais's contribution to national targets.

Within the Re-Value project, opportunities are being explored to enhance public spaces through innovative urban furniture that integrates renewable energy technologies. The aim is to improve user comfort in the pilot area by providing shade and resting points, while simultaneously raising public awareness of the benefits of renewable energy in a decarbonisation context. The initiative also seeks to strengthen cooperation with local businesses, which may sponsor individual pieces of furniture. In the long term, the maintenance of sponsored furniture could be supported by the businesses involved, ensuring the financial sustainability of the initiative.

A parallel line of work focuses on developing an **energy community** around Carcavelos Beach Pilot, enabling buildings in the surrounding area to share renewable energy with nearby businesses. Portugal's current installation costs for residential building-applied photovoltaic systems range from 0.60 to 0.70€ per watt peak for systems in the tens of kilowatts, and approximately 0.30€ per watt peak for medium-sized systems of up to 400 kW. A simulation for a 12.2 kWp residential system in Cascais, covering 103 m<sup>2</sup> and including shading analysis, indicates an annual production of approximately 18,487 kWh, with an estimated investment cost of 8,540€. Energy flow assessments illustrate the distribution of production between self-consumption and energy sharing within the potential community.

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To support the installation of PV systems in nearby buildings, the municipality is exploring partnerships with **Energy Service Companies** (ESCOs). Although long-term ESCO contracts, that typically exceed ten years, cannot currently be signed at municipal level due to governance constraints, a structured energy community model could still be developed for the Carcavelos area. This model would be presented to local building condominiums, enabling them to enter into agreements with ESCOs independently and thereby participate actively in the renewable energy transition.

Cascais is frequently promoted as “the best place to live for a day, a week or a lifetime,” and this vision underpins the municipality’s sustainable tourism strategy. The local government is committed to advancing a tourism model that respects the environment, strengthens cultural identity, and delivers tangible benefits to the community. **Sustainable tourism** requires an integrated approach, as multiple factors shape the overall visitor experience and the long-term development of the destination. With climate action at the forefront, the municipality is investing across several strategic areas to ensure that tourism growth supports both environmental stewardship and community resilience.

A key priority is the diversification of the tourism offer, shifting focus toward nature-based tourism as a complement to traditionally seasonal beach and golf activities, which place significant pressure on the coastline. Protecting the Sintra–Cascais Natural Park and applying Nature-Based Solutions align with the growing demand for outdoor and ecological experiences. This approach supports economic development that respects natural ecosystems and promotes biodiversity, while enhancing the landscape and heritage through activities such as guided nature tours and environmental education workshops.

The **Vinhas Stream Green Corridor** exemplifies this strategy. Its renaturalisation has reduced flood risk and mitigated the urban heat island effect, while creating a green recreational route that connects the Natural Park to the city centre. The corridor encourages sustainable mobility, provides space for leisure, and offers opportunities to observe native species in their natural environment.

Within the urban area, the municipality continues to expand green spaces that support outdoor activities and deliver important environmental, cultural and economic benefits. These areas are managed with sustainable practices, such as efficient irrigation, the planting of native species, and the conversion of conventional lawns, to ensure responsible use of natural resources.

Another notable initiative is the **Cascais for Tomorrow project**, which helps visitors minimise their carbon footprint. Through a digital platform, tourists can measure the environmental impact of their stay and receive guidance on making more sustainable choices.

As sustainable tourism gains prominence globally, travellers increasingly value destinations that demonstrate a genuine environmental commitment. Cascais’ receipt of the Green Destinations *Platinum* Award at ITB Berlin 2024 reflects international recognition of the municipality’s integrated and forward-thinking approach to sustainability in tourism.

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*Figure 7: Cascais' Green Destinations Platinum Award.*

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*O1.1: Re-Value cities reach Fit for 55 objectives*

## **2.2.1.4 Contribution to intended outcomes and impacts**

### **Engage**

In 2025, Cascais strengthened citizen involvement through several creative co-creation initiatives. Youth engagement was a highlight, with the third round of **Innovation Camp** in October bringing together 40 high school students to design sustainable coastal solutions, asking the question “How can we make Carcavelos Beach and Costa da Guia examples of urban transformation on the coast, alongside decarbonization for the well-being of the community?” The winning project EcoBite encourages sustainable mobility by rewarding municipal bike users with restaurant and café discounts based on the kilometers they cycle. The innovation camp shows inclusiveness participation, setting examples for Cascais to adopt the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol long-term ([O3.2](#)).

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*Picture 7: 3rd Innovation Camp (source: Junior Achievement Portugal via LinkedIn).*

The “(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront” workshops (July–September 2025) engaged local communities in shaping future scenarios for Carcavelos Beach and Guia Road, contributing to participatory planning ([O2.1](#), [O2.2](#)). Over the summer, Cascais organized 14 co-creation actions across these two pilot areas, with seven sessions held in each pilot area.

The workshops were carried out in collaboration with Cascais Jovem volunteers, with four volunteers assigned to each pilot area (eight in total). The workshops aimed to foster meaningful citizen involvement through the following key activities:

- Participatory Scenario Development: citizens/tourists were invited to indirectly share their ideas and suggestions for improving the Carcavelos Beach and Guia Road pilot areas. These contributions support the co-creation of future scenarios and raise awareness about the Re-Value project, helping participants to not only learn about it but also experience it.
- Interactive and Creative Engagement Tools: Lego® was used as a playful and flexible tool for design. This hands-on, visual approach offered a simple and engaging way for people of all ages to participate meaningfully.
- Pilot Postcards: citizens and tourists were invited to share their thoughts, ideas, and emotions by writing or drawing on specially designed postcards. Each postcard included a brief description of the

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Re-Value project and Cascais pilot areas, offering an accessible and creative way for participants to engage with the project.



*Picture 8: (Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront workshops.*

The 14 workshops brought together 311 participants to share expectations and ideas for the project. All insights collected during the workshops were analysed to identify recurring themes, shared concerns, and priority actions, as well as the profile of the participants. Results show balanced gender representation and strong local engagement, with nearly two-thirds of participants living in Cascais, showcasing the commitment to inclusive and diverse participation in long-term planning ([O3.2](#)).

As part of Cascais' **Artistic Mission**, the municipality is planning to align activities with the Democracy Week. Cascais was selected as the European Capital of Democracy 2026 (ECoD), a prestigious title that not only recognizes the town's strong democratic practices but also serves as a catalyst for further initiatives that promote civic engagement and participatory governance. The Year of Democracy will feature a diverse programme of events, actions, and projects aimed at strengthening democratic values. Integrating the Re-Value artistic mission into this programme will reinforce the project's core emphasis on inclusive urban transformation and participatory governance. Some initial ideas for these activities are already outlined.

Before Re-Value, Cascais faced engagement fatigue and difficulty mobilizing stakeholders due to overlapping initiatives. The project helped overcome these challenges by fostering youth engagement through Innovation Camps and creative co-creation workshops like (Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront. Integration of Re-Value into the city's climate action hub has strengthened civic participation and stakeholder collaboration. Moving forward, Cascais plans to maintain connections with participants and continue shaping future scenarios, leveraging its role in the European Capital of Democracy 2026.

## Collaboration

Cascais hosted a **Study Visit and Mini Consortium Meeting** to strengthen collaboration and share its sustainability, mobility, and community engagement goals. The program included exchanges with Aarhus Kommune on climate neutrality, presentations by Nova SBE students on energy and nature-based solutions, and interactive activities such as an Expert Exchange on the Beach, a Ribeira das Vinhas corridor tour, and workshops on nature-based solutions using the Invest4Nature toolbox ([O5.2](#)). The Re-Value Stories Workshop further promoted co-creation and knowledge sharing for future pilot opportunities and how Re-Value results are embedded in Cascais ([O4.1](#)).

Moreover, Cascais strengthened its cooperation with other Mission initiatives through its participation in the **NetZeroCities Twinning Programme**, where it was paired with Aarhus, Denmark. This two-year

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peer-learning initiative connects Twin Cities with Pilot and Mission Cities to exchange knowledge and replicate successful practices for climate neutrality. The first stage concluded in May 2025 with a technical visit to Aarhus, where Cascais explored solutions for green spaces, light mobility, sustainable housing, and energy efficiency. In October 2025, Cascais hosted an Aarhus delegation to showcase its own decarbonization strategies. Aarhus also presented its work during the Re-Value Study Visit in Cascais, highlighting mutual learning and collaboration through active cooperation with other Mission/NEB initiatives ([O1.2](#)).

In the fall of 2025, Cascais participated in **Sister Space workshops** organized by IC1 and IC3, together with its sister cities Rimini and Constanța. In **IC1 Sister Space** on 15 October, Cascais worked on waterfront cultural identity and reconnecting people with water and their historical background. Using a romantic approach, Cascais tried to bridge cultural identity and climate neutrality goals through storytelling, connecting the past, the rupture, and the hope. IC1 leads followed up with Cascais individually afterwards, and Cascais will present this as a city story at the 2026 Consortium meeting ([R3](#), [O2.1](#)).

In **IC3 Sister Space** on 13 November, Cascais presented two forward-looking ideas for *solar PV and energy communities* in the Carcavelos beach area: first, PV-integrated urban furniture (benches, shelters, and small work cabins with charging points) built in partnership with Extroplás, a local producer of recycled-plastic furniture; and second, rooftop PV installations on nearby buildings to create a local renewable energy community together with Nova SBE University. Cascais sees these as ways to increase comfort and shade for users, make decarbonisation visible in public space, and engage local businesses through sponsorship and co-branding of furniture, while involving universities and vocational schools in the design. Key challenges are finding manufacturers willing to adapt production lines for a small batch of PV prototypes, securing municipal funding and business sponsorships, managing long-term maintenance and vandalism risks, and structuring bankable ESCO partnerships in a context of no feed-in tariff and long payback times. The discussion with Rimini and Constanța brought concrete suggestions: learning from smart benches and bus stops about design and maintenance, exploring tourism- or hospitality-related charges as a funding source, and piloting a small number of sponsored pieces linked to a broader Carcavelos energy community concept, which would help Cascais test both the technical and partnership aspects before scaling up. As a follow-up, IC3 will prepare a “City Canvas” capturing the presentation and the discussion, as well as a guidance note on financing and partnership models relevant for each city ([R3](#), [O2.1](#), [O5.2](#)).

## Policy

Local experiences are shaping broader policy directions. Cascais published a **peer-reviewed paper**, *Towards climate adaptation: a case study of a Coastal City in Portugal*,<sup>20</sup> sharing insights about the city of Cascais’ energy consumption and GHG emissions. The goal is to use evidence-based research to inform policies at regional level and Cascais’ Territorial Transformation Plan (TTP). TTP Talks and Sister Space sessions explored systemic challenges in energy and mobility, future visions for pilot areas, and financing strategies for PV installations ([O5.1](#)). These efforts aim to refine Cascais’ roadmap toward climate neutrality by 2050 and influence regional and EU-level policy discussions ([O1.3](#)).

*Collectively, these activities have contributed to several intended outcomes and impacts of Re-Value:*

### *O1.2: Active cooperation with other Mission/NEB initiatives*

<sup>20</sup> [Towards climate adaptation: a case study of a Coastal City in Portugal](#)

*O1.3: Re-Value Policy Briefs inform policies at EU/national level*

*O2.1: Leading Cities and Replication Cities take up the participatory Re-Value Story building, Scenario building and Investment & Partnership building strategies*

*O2.2: Citizens/professional stakeholders feel they contributed to the outcomes*

*O3.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities adopt the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol long-term*

*O4.1: Exploitable Results are embedded in Re-Value cities*

*O5.1: LCs and RCs embed in their strategies for updating long-term Territorial Transformation Plans a universal design of climate neutrality, including energy and mobility poverty*

*O5.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities fully embed the participatory, circular and shared value chains in their Investment and Partnership Plans*

## 2.2.1.5 Communication and Dissemination measures

Cascais updated its local Re-Value Communication and Dissemination Plan in May 2025 (M41) as deliverable D8.7 ([CDE6](#)). In 2025, Cascais has organized several rounds of local workshops focusing on Re-Value pilot areas as shown in the table below.

**Table 5: List of local workshops and activities performed in 2025.**

Date	Activity	Participants
24/03/2025	Climate Action Day - Re-Value Project	50
15/07/2025	Training workshop for the young volunteers of 'Cascais Jovem': How to Co-create with the Community?	16
16/07/2025	Co-creation workshop in Carcavelos Beach Pilot: (Re)thinking Cascais Waterfront	15
16/07/2025	Co-creation workshop in Guia Road Pilot: (Re)thinking Cascais Waterfront	14
23/07/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront - Carcavelos Beach	25
23/07/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront - Guia Road	10
06/08/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront - Carcavelos Beach	22
06/08/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront - Guia Road	28
20/08/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront - Carcavelos Beach	52
20/08/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront - Guia Road	38
27/08/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront - Guia Road	11
27/08/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront -Carcavelos Beach	44
03/09/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront -Carcavelos Beach	18

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03/09/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront - Guia Road	9
10/09/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront - Carcavelos Beach	9
10/09/2025	(Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront - Guia Road	9
15/10/2025	3rd Innovation Camp	40

Re-Value supports youth engagement in Cascais through the Innovation Camps ([CDE9](#)). The city hosted its third Innovation Camp, focusing on urban transformation on the coast, alongside decarbonization for the well-being of the community (see detailed in the previous section). In October, Cascais hosted its own Study Visit and the Mini Consortium Meeting ([CDE2](#)). These activities complement the city's long-standing involvement in European initiatives, including the Covenant of Mayors, the EU Missions for Climate-neutral Cities and Adaptation, and the European Green City Accord. Cascais has also engaged primarily through the NetZeroCities Twinning Learning Programme, connecting with Aarhus, Denmark, as part of a two-year peer-learning initiative ([CDE12](#)). In addition, Cascais published a scientific article *Towards climate adaptation: a case study of a Coastal City in Portugal*,<sup>21</sup> conducting spatial analysis to refine the roadmap and update Cascais' long-term Territorial Transformation Plan, accelerating its path toward climate neutrality by 2050 ([CDE5](#)).

## 2.2.2 Constanța

### 2.2.2.1 Detailed Roadmap

Constanța finalized the *Explore* part of its Detailed Roadmap in June 2025 (M30),<sup>22</sup> building upon a first draft prepared for internal use in June 2024.

In this document, the Re-Value Constanța team described in detail the Waterfront Pilot. It focuses on the Peninsula Area, in particular the historic city center, and outlines activities carried out in the first phase as well as those planned until June 2026 to design a Territorial Transformation Plan aimed at achieving climate neutrality by 2035.

The first chapter introduces the main features of the Peninsula Area, including its landmarks, socio-economic characteristics, land use, cultural and spatial quality, mobility, and utilities. It also covers stakeholder engagement activities, such as Innovation Camps, and insights from the Impact Model workshop, along with key opportunities and challenges for the pilot.

The second chapter sets out a short-term action plan for the next phase, emphasizing inclusive and collaborative design of the TTP. Planned actions include strengthening cooperation with local stakeholders such as Constanța Casino management, Ovidius University, and MedGreen Cluster, developing technical support studies, capitalizing on existing projects, introducing a Low Emission Zone in the Peninsula Area, and continuing Innovation Camps.

The second *Implement* part of the Detailed Roadmap will describe in more detail the results achieved through Re-Value's Innovation Cycles, and it will outline an implementation roadmap to ensure a structured

<sup>21</sup> [Towards climate adaptation: a case study of a Coastal City in Portugal](#)

<sup>22</sup> [D6.5 Detailed Roadmap for the Waterfront Pilot in Constanța](#)

transition toward climate neutrality. This part of the Roadmap works as a link to the Territorial Transformation Plan (TTP). The final document will reflect both the progress made and the strategic direction for the next stages of the project.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

### 2.2.2.2 Update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans

Work on identifying the plans and strategies that are relevant for the sustainable urban development of the Waterfront Pilot and the transition of the city to climate neutrality began already in the “Explore” phase of the project and are reported in the Detailed Roadmap of the city (see previous section). This formed the first step towards the update of the city’s long-term TTPs.

In the fall of 2025, Constanța connected with its sister cities Rimini and Cascais through a series of thematic TTP Talks (see [R5](#)), to discuss some of their actions/measures, in terms of goals, outcomes, needs and challenges, to gain new insights in the process of updating those plans. For the energy and mobility Talk, Constanța couldn’t attend. However, they followed the sessions of Ålesund and Rijeka instead. The outcome of these workshops can be consulted under Rimini’s and Ålesund’s relevant sections, [2.1.4.1](#) and [2.1.1.1](#).

As a continuation of the work initiated in their Roadmap and explored further during the TTP Talks, in 2026 Constanța will further examine the main activities performed or planned during the Re-Value project through a policy lens, and will integrate the insights and recommendations into deliverable D6.12: Updated long-term Territorial Transformation Plan towards climate neutrality by 2050, Constanța.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

### 2.2.2.3 Fit for 55 objectives

The new SECAP sets ambitious objectives:

- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by **55% by 2030** compared to the reference year.
- Achieve **climate neutrality by 2050**.
- Prevent the occurrence of climate hazards.
- Increase community resilience.

The strategy’s action plan also includes measures relevant to the Re-Value pilot area, aiming to improve overall urban quality.

In addition, Constanța is selected as the Mirror Mission Cities HUB Romania among other nine Romanian cities. Constanța worked on its Climate City Contract (CCC), which went through public consultation in March 2025. The CCC is an ambitious plan aiming for an 80.55% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by 2035 compared to 2021. It includes an action plan with investments totaling €2.6 billion across seven fields of action. The main success factor will be securing the necessary funding to implement this strategy. The CCC

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process served as a learning ground for Constanța, generating ideas closely aligned with Re-Value during its implementation.

Activities in the Re-Value pilot area continue to align with the measures defined in the SECAP for the Peninsula neighbourhood. These actions cover a broad range of interventions supporting energy efficiency, Planned measures include:

- **Sustainable urban mobility improvements**, such as refurbishing pedestrian areas, extending cycle paths, and upgrading infrastructure used by public transport.
- **Enhancement of leisure and social facilities**, including sports fields, multifunctional community spaces, and equipment for youth and socio-cultural activities.
- **Urban environment upgrades**, involving integrated refurbishment of public spaces and underground infrastructure, improvements to green areas and pedestrian access, installation of urban furniture, CCTV, Wi-Fi, intelligent lighting, automated irrigation systems using collected rainwater, selective waste collection points, and EV charging stations.
- **Development of new green and recreational areas**, including new plantings, pedestrian and promenade routes, lighting, and leisure amenities.
- **Integrated refurbishment of the area between Modern Beach, Lebedei Street and the slope**, introducing new cultural and leisure facilities, promenade areas, and parking spaces.
- **Refurbishment of Mihai Eminescu High School and the restoration of the Constanța Casino.**

In parallel, work on the **Zonal Urbanistic Plan** for the historical and central areas is ongoing. This plan aims to define the urban functionalities of the area. The Constanța Re-Value team is working hand in hand with the plan developers in order to align it with the project vision and objectives.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*O1.1: Re-Value cities reach Fit for 55 objectives*

## 2.2.2.4 Contribution to intended outcomes and impacts

### Engage

2025 has been a busy year for Constanța, with the municipality applying for several calls focused on urban regeneration, green spaces, and sustainable mobility, including plans to convert parking areas into urban forests and introduce electric buses. The Re-Value Constanța team faced challenges due to a packed schedule. Nevertheless, a major highlight was the third round of the **Innovation Camp**, held from 17–23 October, on the theme “Sustainable Tourism – Increasing the Attractiveness of the Peninsular Area through Intelligent, Sustainable Interventions.” The camp brought together 47 students, reflecting inclusive participation in the urban planning process and generating creative ideas for sustainable tourism development ([O3.2](#)).

The CONSTANTA 360’ Team won first place for its innovative approach to cultural heritage. The team created 3D models of emblematic buildings in the peninsular area, showcased in Ovidiu Square and linked to an interactive application through QR codes. This allows tourists to access audio and written information about each building, blending technology with heritage to enrich the visitor experience.

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In parallel, the city drafted its Climate City Contract through a participatory process involving public institutions, academia, businesses, and civil society, with technical support from World Bank experts ([O2.2](#)). A local Net Zero Coalition of 44 entities was established to implement the CCC, and a digital platform, Constanța 2035,<sup>23</sup> was launched to facilitate dialogue and engagement ([O5.2](#)). In addition, Constanța is preparing to launch a **user perception survey** as the foundation for further engagement and transformation scenario development in the Peninsula area. The Constanța team has established the methodology and developed the questionnaire. The plan is to distribute the survey during the summer of 2026 in order to receive both the citizens and the tourists feedback on how they perceive the area. Further updates are expected in 2026.

## Collaborate

In the fall of 2025, Constanța participated in **Sister Space workshops** organized by IC1 and IC3, together with its sister cities Rimini and Cascais. In **IC1 Sister Space** on 15 October, Constanța worked on waterfront cultural identity and reconnecting people with water and their historical background. Using a romantic approach, Constanța tried to bridge cultural identity and climate neutrality goals through storytelling, connecting the past, the rupture, and the hope. IC1 leads followed up with Constanța individually afterwards, and Constanța will present this as a city story at the 2026 Consortium meeting ([R3](#), [O2.1](#)).

In **IC3 Sister Space** on 13 November, Constanța presented a business incubator concept in the historic peninsula as a flagship partnership model for urban regeneration, involving the Constanța Metropolitan Area, the municipality and the Regional Chamber of Commerce. The project refurbishes a building in the Re-Value pilot area with a 50%–50% split between European funds and municipal funding (including non-eligible costs) and will host around 17 creative-sector companies with below-market rent and mentoring services, complementing other investments such as street upgrades and the Casino’s refurbishment. Key learnings include that EU funding can trigger substantial renewal but requires the municipality to manage cost overruns and cash-flow risks, and that the Chamber’s role in providing expertise, networks and services is central to the incubator’s credibility and potential. Challenges include coping with rising construction prices and technical issues in refurbishing an old building, securing a viable operational model and funding after the formal project period, and designing clear rules for incubation and graduation of businesses, something they are refining with support from a World Bank consultancy. During the Sister Space, Cascais related the project to similar creative-quarter regenerations elsewhere, while Rimini suggested using temporary uses to “put life and light” into buildings even before full refurbishment, and IC3 raised the possibility of more systematically involving Chamber member companies both as mentors and as financial supporters of the incubator’s activities. As a follow-up, IC3 will prepare a “City Canvas” capturing the presentation and the discussion, as well as a guidance note on financing and partnership models relevant for each city ([R3](#), [O2.1](#), [O5.2](#)).

*Collectively, these activities have contributed to several intended outcomes and impacts of Re-Value:*

*O2.1: Leading Cities and Replication Cities take up the participatory Re-Value Story building, Scenario building and Investment & Partnership building strategies*

*O2.2: Citizens/professional stakeholders feel they contributed to the outcomes*

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<sup>23</sup> [Constanța 2035](#)

O3.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities adopt the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol long-term

O5.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities fully embed the participatory, circular and shared value chains in their Investment and Partnership Plans

## 2.2.2.5 Communication and Dissemination measures

Constanța updated its Re-Value Communication and Dissemination Plan in May 2025, which is available in deliverable D8.7<sup>24</sup> ([CDE6](#)). As part of its co-creation activities, Constanța hosted its third Innovation Camp ([CDE9](#)) (see detailed in previous section).

**Table 6: List of local workshops and activities performed in 2025.**

Date	Activity	Participants
17/01/2025	2nd Innovation camp	55
09/04/2025	Energy and mobility / Circular economy	59
22/05/2025	Energy and mobility	50
29/05/2025	Urban space quality / design and implementation of nature based solutions and environmental protection	59
02/07/2025	Design and implementation of data based solutions	51
27/08/2025	Energy and mobility / design and implementation of nature based solutions and environmental protection	54
17–23/10/2025	3rd Innovation camp	47
14/11/2025	Urban space quality / design and implementation of nature based solutions and environmental protection	

Constanța also participates actively in European and national networks supporting climate action and sustainable urban mobility. The city joined the **Mirror Mission Cities Hub Romania (M100)** in October 2024, together with nine other cities ([CDE12](#)) (see details in previous sections). In November 2025 Constanța received the M100 national label for Climate Neutral and Smart City.

<sup>24</sup> [D8.7: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Re-Value Cities 2](#)



*Picture 9: Constanța receives the M100 Climate-Neutral City Label.*

## 2.2.3 İzmir

### 2.2.3.1 Detailed Roadmap

İzmir finalized the *Explore* part of its Detailed Roadmap in June 2025 (M30)<sup>25</sup>, building upon a first draft prepared for internal use in June 2024. In this document, the Re-Value İzmir team described in detail the Waterfront Pilot, with its opportunities and challenges, and provided an extended overview of the city's vision, strategic plans and ambitions. Finally, it gave an overview of Re-Value activities performed in the Pilot within each of the three Innovation Cycles.

İzmir's approach to climate neutrality, resilience, and integrated urban transformation are captured in three main documents that are relevant for the Re-Value implementation process. The Green City Action Plan (GCAP) outlines a comprehensive framework for addressing climate change and environmental challenges through integrated urban action. The Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan (SECAP) outlines mitigation and adaptation actions, while the İzmir Metropolitan Municipality Strategic Plan outlines key strategic targets aligned with the United Nations' (UN) Sustainable Development Goals. Furthermore, In March 2024, İzmir was officially awarded the EU Mission Label, setting further ambitious climate goals and action plans.

İzmir seeks to accelerate climate-neutral, inclusive and nature-based urban transformation through the development of Sustainable Green Zones (SGZs), with Alsancak as the flagship pilot area. Addressing challenges such as the urban heat island effect, flooding, limited public accessibility, and ecological

<sup>25</sup> [D6.6: Detailed Roadmap for the Waterfront Pilot in İzmir](#)

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degradation, the Alsancak pilot integrates waterfront, urban, and green zones. As such, it aims to serve as a replicable model for city-wide transformation, aligning community needs with data-driven planning to advance İzmir's long-term resilience and climate-neutrality goals. The Roadmap identified tentative future adjustments for the Alsancak pilot, such as improvement of green connectivity, adaptive reuse through micro-scale nature-based solutions, transformation of underused spaces, and inclusive, community-driven design with the support of digital tools.

A final section of the Detailed Roadmap details the active experimentation in the Pilot, as organised across the three Innovation Cycles (ICs) of the Re-Value project. Under IC1, İzmir uses Citizen Design Science (CDS) as its primary method to frame all engagement activities. This framework as well as related Re-Value activities are presented in detail in the Roadmap, including the Innovation Camps, Artistic Missions, co-diagnostic studies and other stakeholder meetings. In relation to IC2, İzmir highlighted its work to develop a Digital Twin Roadmap that ensures the effective use of digital twin technology to support sustainable urbanism decisions, particularly focusing on surface temperature, urban comfort and climate sensitive designs. Several workshops with local stakeholders in 2025 would guide this process, including input from IC2 partners. With respect to partnerships and financing (IC3), İzmir maintains a Stakeholder Ecosystem Matrix, allowing the identification of all individuals, groups, institutions and organizations that have an impact on a given project and/or are affected by the process. Regarding financing models, exchange with Leading Cities and guidance from relevant Re-Value partners intensified after the submission of this Roadmap. Details on all activities can be found in the Roadmap, but their relevance to achieving Re-Value's project objectives is highlighted in Section [2.2.3.4](#).

The second *Implement* part of the Detailed Roadmap will describe in more detail the results achieved through Re-Value's Innovation Cycles, and it will outline an implementation roadmap to ensure a structured transition toward climate neutrality. This part of the Roadmap works as a link to the TTP deliverable.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

## **2.2.3.2 Update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans**

Work on identifying the plans and strategies that are relevant for the sustainable urban development of the Waterfront Pilot and the transition of the city to climate neutrality began already in the "Explore" phase of the project and are reported in the Detailed Roadmap of the city (see previous section). This formed the first step towards the update of the city's long-term Territorial Transformation Plans (TTPs).

In the fall of 2025, İzmir connected with its sister city Burgas through a series of thematic TTP Talks (see [R5](#)), to discuss some of their actions/measures, in terms of goals, outcomes, needs and challenges, to gain new insights in the process of updating those plans. On the topic of cultural and spatial quality, İzmir discussed with Bruges and Písek instead, due to scheduling issues. The outcome of these workshops can be consulted under Burgas's and Bruges' relevant sections, respectively [2.1.3.1](#) and [2.1.2.1](#).

İzmir will further develop the work that was initiated in their Roadmap and further explored during the TTP Talks in 2026, integrating the most prominent activities performed or planned during the Re-Value project into deliverable D6.13: Updated long-term Territorial Transformation Plan towards climate neutrality by 2050, İzmir.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

### **2.2.3.3 Fit for 55 objectives**

İzmir has committed in its SECAP in 2020 to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by at least 40% (per capita) against the 2018 baseline year by 2030 (from 3.31 t CO<sub>2</sub>e in 2018 to 1.98 t CO<sub>2</sub>e by 2030). The city is currently revising its SECAP, aiming to complete the revision in the beginning of 2026. The new version will include updated emission values recalculated in line with the 2050 targets. In the meantime, the city received the Mission Label in March 2024, following approval of its Climate City Contract, where it sets its 2030 Climate Neutrality Commitments. A reduction of 86% by 2030 compared to the 2018 baseline is aimed for, including 100% reduction in buildings and industrial processes.

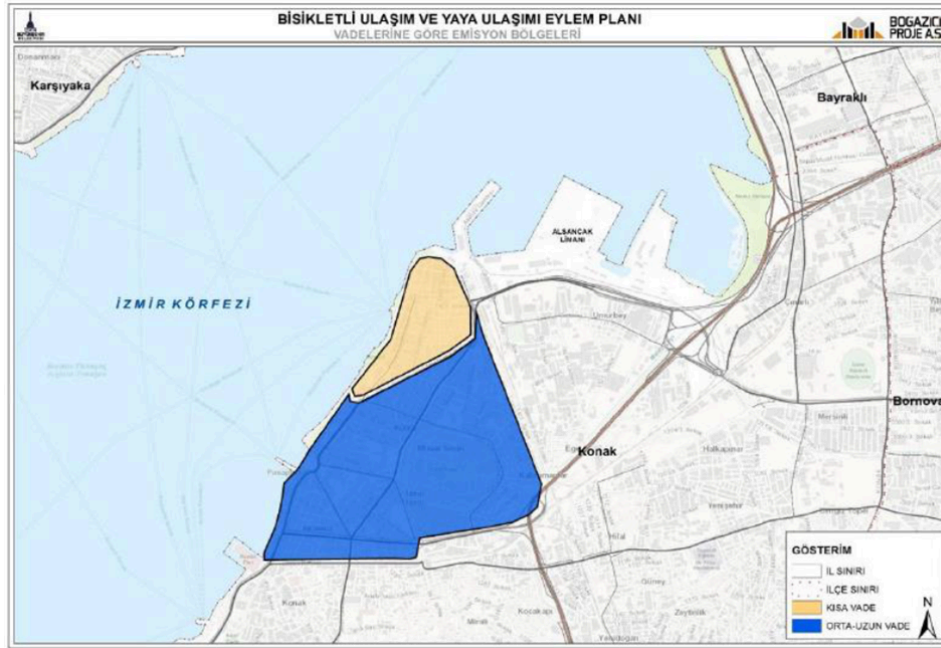
The above commitments pertain to the whole metropolitan municipality. Through Re-Value, it has been possible to develop more robust, locally grounded methods that support these broader climate and emissions-reduction goals. While Re-Value is not designed to deliver citywide implementation within the project period, the İzmir pilot has enabled the municipality to test approaches—such as nature-based solutions, green corridors, microclimate adaptation measures, and participatory design processes—that directly inform future SECAP updates and urban planning practices. The project's strong emphasis on co-creation has also strengthened the integration of community perspectives into climate-adaptation and public-space strategies, increasing the likelihood that forthcoming municipal actions will be both effective and socially accepted. In this sense, Re-Value contributes by providing evidence, methodologies, and participatory frameworks that can be scaled up across the metropolitan area as the city advances toward its 2030 targets (based on the updated SECAP İzmir).

Furthermore, the Roadmap for the pilot area is expected to contribute to emission reductions, through specific actions targeting greener public spaces, better mobility management, and simple nature-based solutions. In the İzmir waterfront pilot, the municipality plans to create connected green corridors that help cool the area, improve air quality, and support local biodiversity. Adding more shade, trees, and permeable surfaces will also make walking routes more comfortable and help reduce localized emissions in a natural way.

The Transport and Traffic Department of the İMM plans to support these goals by limiting car access in some parts of the pilot area and improving slow-mobility routes. Reducing vehicle entry and reorganizing traffic flow will help decrease congestion and exhaust emissions, while encouraging people to walk, cycle, or use public transport. Together with the planned green corridors, these mobility actions are expected to make the pilot area cleaner, cooler, and more resilient to climate impacts. More specifically, the city aims to develop an environmentally sensitive mobility system within the Alsancak district, in line with the strategies defined in the İzmir Transportation Master Plan 2030. According to this plan, the area has been designated as a future Low Emission Zone, expected to enter into force in early 2026. The Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Action Plan foresees the implementation to happen in two phases, the first one covering Kibris Şehitleri Street and the Alsancak–Kordon waterfront (see Figure 8). For the pilot area, key objectives include reducing environmental pollution, ensuring safe and continuous pedestrian circulation, and organising commercial activity in a more efficient manner. To support this, freight movements within the

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district are being measured and analysed, with the possibility of establishing a dedicated micro-consolidation or transfer centre should operational needs require it.



*Figure 8: Bicycle and Pedestrian Mobility Action Plan-Low Emission Zone Alsancak, Konak District, İzmir. Short-term (yellow zone) and medium- to long-term (blue zone) emission-control areas. (Image Credit: İzmir Metropolitan Municipality, Department of Transportation).*

These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:

O1.1: Re-Value cities reach Fit for 55 objectives

## 2.2.3.4 Contribution to intended outcomes and impacts

### Engage

In spring 2025, İzmir was prepared to host the Re-Value Consortium Meeting combined with a Study Visit on 8-10 April, which would include a tour of the Alsancak Site, presentations of the Citizen Science approach and an Artistic Mission. However, the meeting was eventually moved online and the Study Visit was cancelled, due to *force majeure*. Only the Artistic Mission took place on site on 9 April, albeit without the presence of other Re-Value partners. During the **Artistic Mission (O2.1)**, participants explored İzmir Kültürpark through guided photography activities inspired by the KÖK (ROOT) exhibition, capturing symbols, colors, and stories embedded in the park's ecological and historical landscape. University students guided the tour. The photos were then archived and prepared for transformation into an interactive art object, with selected photographs to be projected onto surfaces in the pilot area and re-photographed to reinterpret themes of memory, identity, and transformation.

In addition to this activity, **Artistic Mission 2** was carried out on 16 June with primary school children in the Kültürpark, focusing on environmental awareness, creative expression, and early engagement with urban nature. The activity consisted of a guided nature walk through selected parts of Kültürpark, where students

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observed the park's flora, fauna, and cultural heritage elements while learning about ecological values and the role of green spaces in the city's climate resilience. Following the walk, the children participated in a collage workshop inspired by their observations, using shapes, colors, and textures drawn from Kültürpark's landscape. The collages were collected and documented as part of the Re-Value İzmir artistic archive, contributing to the project's goal of strengthening participatory, place-based artistic practices and fostering a sense of belonging and environmental stewardship among younger generations ([O2.1](#), [O2.2](#)).



*Picture 10: Artistic Mission 2 (Photo Credit: Çelen Ayşe Ünal, İzmir Metropolitan Municipality, Urban Design and Aesthetics).*

In July 2025, the **ROOT (KÖK) exhibition** was reinstalled in Kültürpark to further enhance public engagement and strengthen the continuity of the project's artistic narrative. By bringing the exhibition back into the park's everyday circulation, the initiative created renewed opportunities for residents and visitors to interact with its themes of memory, ecology, and cultural heritage. The open-air setting enabled spontaneous encounters with the artwork, encouraging reflection on the park's historical layers and environmental significance. This extended public display also complemented the earlier Artistic Missions by broadening the audience and reinforcing the role of art as a medium for collective awareness and urban storytelling within the Re-Value İzmir framework. This experience set a good example for other actors in the area, who are now performing similar activities in the park ([O2.1](#)).

With half its population under 30, İzmir places special emphasis on youth, engaging them through innovation camps and educational programs that build digital skills, creativity, and civic responsibility. The **third Innovation Camp "Add Value to Your City"** was organised on 13 and 18 November 2025 in Alsancak ([CDE9](#)). The two-day event invited university students to develop detailed design concepts for the Alsancak pilot area, using recommendations obtained from the previous iterations, with a strong emphasis on climate resilience. Using the Junior Achievement Business Development Model, they also assessed the economic value and sustainability of their project ideas. A comprehensive catalogue was developed to compile the ideas, concepts, and visual materials produced by the students during the camp. This catalogue will be shared with municipal decision-makers to strengthen the visibility and applicability of the collaboratively generated design proposals, thereby increasing their chances of being implemented in the Alsancak pilot area. The process also revealed important insights regarding youth engagement: students, who are the city's future professionals, developed a stronger sense of belonging to İzmir, felt more motivated through the opportunity to create tangible impact, and communicated more comfortably with local authorities thanks to this collaborative environment. For the municipality, such workshops help cultivate a culture of sharing, co-design, and transparency, encouraging new approaches in the design and governance of urban public spaces ([O2.2](#), [O3.2](#)).



*Picture 11: Innovation Camp 3 in İzmir on 13 and 18 November 2025 (Photo Credit: Çelen Ayşe Ünal, İzmir Metropolitan Municipality, Urban Design and Aesthetics).*

## Collaborate

İzmir is using the Citizen Design Science (CDS) framework to structure all their engagement activities in Re-Value. It was also used in 2025 to support the *co-diagnostic* and *co-design* of a **Digital Twin Roadmap** for the city, which aims to support the integration of a climate-sensitive Digital Twin model that facilitates sustainable urban planning through data-driven decision making ([O2.1](#), [O4.2](#)). The process included among others a field study, two workshops and one roundtable discussion. The whole process worked in an exemplary way for other municipal departments, showcasing the collaboration between the municipality, technical staff, Mukhtars (neighborhood elected officials) and citizen input.

The **field study** was conducted between 5 and 11 May 2025 and aimed to assess public life on Şevket Özçelik (Dominik) Street in Alsancak. The study included a survey with 158 participants, face-to-face interviews with 19 users, and observational data covering 9 309 users. It evaluated demographics, use patterns, mobility, experience, inclusivity, safety, and Digital Twin considerations. The study found that this transit corridor lacks essential amenities such as shade, seating, and green areas to combat extreme heat. Users also reported inadequate parking and insufficient bicycle and pedestrian facilities. The interviews also showed that digital tools could improve livability and user experience, as many participants expressed interest in real-time data on temperature, shade, and comfortable walking routes, indicating strong potential for digital systems to support navigation, comfort, and safety (particularly for vulnerable groups).

A **first workshop** on 20 May brought together stakeholders to discuss findings from the field study and to jointly identify problems and opportunities related to urban heat, microclimate, and pedestrian experience in the area. Through map-based group discussions, participants analyzed surface temperature, shading, mobility, comfort, and user needs, comparing their insights with citizen-generated data. The session produced shared priorities and data requirements for the digital twin, forming an initial framework for evidence-based and community-informed urban interventions.

The **second workshop**, held on 27 October, brought together various experts, including Re-Value IC2 partners, to assess how surface temperatures influence ambient air conditions and climate sensitivity in İzmir. Participants from municipal departments and partner institutions collaborated on integrating digital twin models with planning tools to inform climate-resilient urban design. Ecoten presented its microclimate-focused digital twin studies, Augment City analyzed pedestrianization scenarios and traffic restrictions, and VITO examined how improving building energy efficiency could reduce surface temperature impacts. The workshop also included scenario analyses for the impact on interventions on the improvement

of microclimate conditions. These discussions helped shape actionable strategies for enhancing urban resilience and supported the development of the Digital Twin Roadmap.

The follow-up **roundtable** on 10 November advanced the Digital Twin Roadmap by confirming a pragmatic, needs-driven approach in which İzmir's digital twin would initially function as a modular decision-support system rather than a full virtual replica. Participants agreed to prioritise key themes such as urban heat islands, harmful emissions, informal construction, and climate risks, and highlighted the value of developing a tailored model given current constraints in data availability, coordination, and software capacity. The discussion stressed the need to prioritise meaningful data integration, with a central role for municipal GIS data. Participants also emphasised the importance of multilevel governance and continuous coordination between municipal departments, İzmir Planning Agency (İZPA - a strategic urban planning and design institution established by the İMM to guide the city's sustainable transformation), Konak Municipality, and academic partners. Ensuring consistent data flows, clarifying data integration processes, and aligning transportation modelling, socio-economic surveys, and sectoral datasets were identified as prerequisites for building a functional and scalable digital twin system for İzmir's planning processes.

During the course of October 2025, the İzmir team conducted 14 **stakeholder interviews** for the Alsancak pilot area, responding to the need for a coordinated approach to collecting, sharing, and integrating urban data into the Digital Twin Roadmap. The one-to-one interviews were based on a questionnaire structured around seven thematic categories and originally designed for the Co-Diagnostic study on Şevket Özçelik Street, later adapted to other key locations in the pilot area. The discussions highlighted the potential to link real-time environmental data, spatial and mobility datasets, and advanced analytical tools within a digital twin framework to support urban planning and risk analysis. Overall, stakeholders converged on the need for a digital twin that prioritises climate adaptation, low-carbon strategies, nature-based solutions, mobility analysis, and data-driven participatory governance for the Alsancak area.

In the fall of 2025, İzmir also participated in **Sister Space workshops** organised by IC1 and IC3, together with its sister city Burgas. On 1 September the two cities worked together on a story building exercise for **IC1**, with as topic their common challenge of inter-departmental collaboration. In İzmir, the process for the development of the Digital Twin Roadmap is a good opportunity to combine their work on data-driven co-creation (IC2) with tackling collaboration between departments. The challenge is to formalise and replicate such collaboration also in the future. Following this session, İzmir will create a story describing this collaboration, and will present it at the 2026 Consortium meeting ([R3](#), [O2.1](#)).

In the **IC3 Sister Space** on 21 November, İzmir presented its Re-Value pilot in the Alsancak / inner Bay area, where the city is testing a climate-resilient, data-driven transformation linking two large parks with green corridors and improved streets, supported by a digital-twin roadmap. The project combines nature-based solutions, streetscape upgrades and stakeholder engagement, aligned with the city's Green City Action Plan, sustainable energy plans and Mission City strategy. Key learnings include the value of Citizen Design Science activities (e.g. student and resident workshops) for both data collection and public awareness, and the importance of close cooperation with the İzmir Planning Agency to embed the pilot in broader metropolitan strategies. Their main challenge is securing long-term financing and robust co-financing models beyond the Horizon Europe grant: previous PPP attempts in historic areas were vulnerable to political change, and responsibilities for implementation and maintenance remain fragmented. In dialogue with Burgas, İzmir explained how citizen-generated data will feed into a city-wide digital twin and, in turn, took note of

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Burgas's experience with integrated territorial investments and NbS-linked grant applications as possible avenues for future funding and partnerships ([O2.1](#)). As a follow-up, IC3 will prepare a "City Canvas" capturing the presentation and the discussion, as well as a guidance note on financing and partnership models relevant for each city.

*Collectively, these activities have contributed to several intended outcomes and impacts of Re-Value:*

*O2.1: Leading Cities and Replication Cities take up the participatory Re-Value Story building, Scenario building and Investment & Partnership building strategies*

*O2.2: Citizens/professional stakeholders feel they contributed to the outcomes*

*O3.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities adopt the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol long-term*

*O4.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities embed long-term Re-Value's data-driven co-creation and scenario-building in decision support*

## 2.2.3.5 Communication and Dissemination measures

İzmir updated its Re-Value Communication and Dissemination Plan in May 2025, which is available in deliverable D8.7<sup>26</sup> ([CDE6](#)). In 2025, a highlight of İzmir's Re-Value activity would have been the Study Visit and combined Consortium meeting in April, which were however moved online and cancelled, respectively, due to *force majeure*. Nevertheless, the city maintained its engagement with the local community through various activities during the year, including an Artistic Mission as planned for the Study Visit, a follow up of the Artistic Mission in June, and its third iteration of the Innovation Camps in November ([CDE9](#), see also previous section).

A series of workshops as well as a survey and seven-day-long Citizen Design Science site study were also organised in the pilot area as part of İzmir's development of a Digital Twin Roadmap. The workshops took place in May, October and November and brought together municipal departments, technical experts, Mukhtars, and citizens to jointly analyse local conditions and define data needs, strategies, and collaborative actions for a resilient, evidence-based Digital Twin Roadmap (see previous section). Next to these workshops, also one-to-one meetings with stakeholders were organised together with İZPA in order to gather their views on the topic. Local workshops organised in 2025 are summarised in the table below ([CDE1](#)).

**Table 7: List of local workshops and activities performed in 2025.**

Date	Activity	Participants
09/04/2025	Artistic Mission with design students and Kültürpark 'Root' Exhibition (9-20 April)	30 (+300 visitors)
20/05/2025	Climate Adaptive Alsancak: 1st Digital Twin data Workshop (information gathering and problem identification)	30

<sup>26</sup> [D8.7: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Re-Value Cities 2](#)

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16/06/2025	Artistic Mission 2, with 3rd grade primary school children from the pilot area and Kulturpark Root Exhibition Repeat (1-30/06)	40 (+800 visitors)
27/10/2025	Climate Adaptive Alsancak: 2nd Digital Twin data Workshop - Expert Workshop (technical assessment and scenario analysis)	15
01-22/10/2025	Series of Stakeholder Meetings: Thematic and online designed with İZPA (14 online meetings of 1h)	15
10/11/2025	Climate Adaptive Alsancak: Roundtable discussion (DT integration and roadmap evaluation)	12
13&18/11/2025	3rd Innovation Camp "Add Value to Your City"	66

İzmir furthermore took part in the UP2030 "Cities in Action" conference in Barcelona in October, presenting its Alsancak District pilot focused on combining citizen-generated data with digital tools to enhance coastal resilience and public space quality. The city also showcased how Re-Value approaches such as Innovation Camps and Artistic Missions support its process. Following that, representatives of İzmir attended the Smart City Expo World Congress on 4-6 November, where they connected with various other cities and solution providers.

During 2025, the municipality worked together with İZPA to prepare three reports based on the city's work in the Pilot (CDE5). The publications are titled "Co-Diagnosis – Şevket Özçelik Street: Assessing Public Space Quality", "Co-Diagnosis – İnciraltı Urban Forest: Assessing Public Space Quality" and "Co-Diagnosis – Kibris Şehitleri Street: Assessing Public Space Quality". These reports have been published as open-access documents written in Turkish on the official website of the İzmir Planning Agency.<sup>27</sup> Their English translations, expected in 2026, will also be made publicly available on the same platform. All three reports apply a shared, user-centred assessment methodology aligned with the Re-Value framework. The Şevket Özçelik Street study was already described in the previous section. The İnciraltı Urban Forest study extends the same methodology to a coastal green area connected to the pilot zone, highlighting the role of nature-based solutions, accessibility, and climate-sensitive recreational design in strengthening resilience along İzmir's inner bay. The Kibris Şehitleri Street study applies the approach to a major pedestrian axis, revealing similar challenges around comfort, maintenance, safety, and extreme weather exposure, while reinforcing the relevance of digital tools and climate-adaptive design at a metropolitan scale. Together, the three publications demonstrate a coherent, data-driven approach to linking public-space quality, climate resilience, and citizen experience, providing transferable insights that strengthen Re-Value implementation in the pilot area and support broader citywide application. They also show a consistent public interest in digital tools that support climate-adaptive mobility, wayfinding, and environmental awareness.

Finally, İzmir continued to integrate Re-Value work with its Mission City activities, connecting with national and international city networks (CDE12). Following its Mission Label award in March 2024, İzmir has received support from a NetZeroCities City Advisor and has participated in monthly coordination meetings. The city's Mission Team contributed to the Re-Value consortium meetings (8–10 April 2025), sharing methodology, Urban Policy Notes, and the Mission City 2030 Camp Results Report. İzmir is part of the NZC Capital Hub process, and its Climate City Contract (CCC) is being integrated into the Waterfront Pilot

<sup>27</sup> <https://planizm.com/en/node/38>

Roadmap. At the MARUF Conference (1–3 October 2025), İzmir participated in the launch of the Climate Neutral Cities Network of Türkiye (İNŞA), which now includes 52 Turkish cities. A high-level roundtable with city representatives and national partners discussed governance models, policy support, and alignment with the new Climate Law. İzmir also presented key messages from its Climate City Contract in a panel discussion with Istanbul and Warsaw.

## 2.2.4 Písek

### 2.2.4.1 Detailed Roadmap

Písek finalized the *Explore* part of its Detailed Roadmap in June 2025 (M30),<sup>28</sup> building upon a first draft prepared for internal use in June 2024.

This document outlines the objectives, context, and planned activities of the Re-Value pilot in Písek. It introduces two pilot areas—Mezimostí and the Portyč housing estate—and describes their current conditions, transformation goals, and the participatory methods used to involve local actors and residents. Mezimostí, located at the intersection of residential, administrative, and commercial zones, combines civic buildings, pedestrian blocks, and green spaces with direct access to the Otava River, offering strong ecological and recreational potential. Portyč, in contrast, is a large housing estate from the 1980s, characterized by dense panel housing, limited greenery, and standardized public spaces, where overheating and social challenges highlight the need for climate adaptation and improved quality of life.

Building on these insights, Písek presents a list of ten measures to be tested between 2025 and 2026 as part of their active experimentation in Re-Value. These include the implementation of the 3–30–300 approach, the use of microclimate simulation tools, and the establishment of a Re-USE center, alongside participatory activities such as innovation camps and public events like Earth Day, Pískoviště, and Dotkni se Písku. Together, these measures aim to enhance public spaces, strengthen community ties, and support climate resilience, creating models that can inform future city-wide strategies.

The second *Implement* part of the Detailed Roadmap will describe in more detail the results achieved through Re-Value’s Innovation Cycles, and it will outline an implementation roadmap to ensure a structured transition toward climate neutrality. This part of the Roadmap works as a link to the Territorial Transformation Plan (TTP), which aims to guide Písek toward climate neutrality by 2050.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

### 2.2.4.2 Update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans

Work on identifying the plans and strategies that are relevant for the sustainable urban development of the Waterfront Pilot and the transition of the city to climate neutrality began already in the “Explore” phase of the project and are reported in the Detailed Roadmap of the city (see previous section). This formed the first step towards the update of the city’s long-term TTPs.

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<sup>28</sup> [D6.7 Detailed Roadmap for the Waterfront Pilot in Písek](#)

# re-value

In the fall of 2025, Písek connected with its sister city Bruges through a series of thematic TTP Talks (see [R5](#)), to discuss some of their actions/measures, in terms of goals, outcomes, needs and challenges, to gain new insights in the process of updating those plans. The outcome of these workshops can be consulted under Bruges' relevant sections, [2.1.2.1](#).

As a continuation of the work initiated in their Roadmap and explored further during the TTP Talks, in 2026 Písek will further examine the main activities performed or planned during the Re-Value project through a policy lens, and will integrate the insights and recommendations into deliverable D6.14: Updated long-term Territorial Transformation Plan towards climate neutrality by 2050, Písek.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

### 2.2.4.3 Fit for 55 objectives

The City of Písek has been implementing the SECAP since 2020, and plans to update it in 2026 (postponed from an original plan to update it in 2024), with the main goal to achieve climate neutrality by 2050. The insights gained through pilot activities will directly inform the updated strategy.

In 2023, a dedicated energy management company was established in Písek to develop renewable energy sources and ensure energy management according to ISO 50001. At the same time, in 2023 the City of Písek started the preparation of a new general strategic plan for the years 2025-2035, which should integrate the existing sub-strategies, and focuses on key areas such as transport, environment, economy, public space, and social issues. In this process, Re-Value plays a catalytic role in fostering a planning culture grounded in innovation, inclusivity, participation, and co-creation.

In 2025, Písek developed several initiatives to reduce carbon emissions, including an EV fleet-sharing program and microclimate simulations .



*Picture 12: EV fleet-sharing program.*

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*O1.1: Re-Value cities reach Fit for 55 objectives*

## 2.2.4.4 Contribution to intended outcomes and impacts

### Engage

Throughout 2025, Písek actively engaged its community through a mix of learning sessions, workshops, and on-street events. The year began with a CrAFt Mutual Learning Session with other Craft cities. Spring brought vibrant activities such as Earth Day celebrations and the Pískoviště festival, creating opportunities for families and children to connect. In summer, the Dotkni se Písku city festival became a major highlight, showcasing the city's cultural energy. Later in the year, the Week of Citizen Engagement featured workshops for students and architecture enthusiasts, fostering dialogue on urban development. The city also started a pilot event using Re-Value Caravan in October. The caravan travels into the public space as part of the Re-Value project and tries to create a safe place for dialogue, stories and questions about the future of Písek, creating channels for citizens and stakeholders to contribute to the urban planning process ([02.2](#)).



*Picture 13: Dotkni se Písku - City festival.*

Youth engagement continues to play a central role in Písek's Re-Value journey ([03.2](#)). The third edition of **Innovation Camp** gathered 49 students, held in November 2025, built on the structure of the first two camps while introducing important refinements. The core theme remained tactical urbanism, with a focus on public space improvement. Despite these successes, sustaining student engagement beyond the camp format remains an open question, as the long-term role of youth in shaping Písek's urban future has yet to be fully defined.



*Picture 14: 3rd innovation camp in November 2025.*

## Collaborate

In the fall of 2025, Písek participated in Sister Space workshops organized by IC1 and IC3, together with its sister city Bruges.

In **IC3 Sister Space** on 19 September, Písek presented its work on a general assessment tool that operationalises the New European Bauhaus impact model, alongside concrete projects in and around the Sladovna cultural centre and blue-green infrastructure interventions. The tool combines national/European blue-green infrastructure methodologies with the NEB dimensions to help a cross-disciplinary team (environment, architecture, mobility, smart buildings) evaluate projects more holistically. Key learnings were that detailed methods exist but are too time-consuming for everyday use, so there is a need for a “mid-level” of indicators that planners and developers can actually handle, and that having a motivated core team around Sladovna helps give the tool real projects to test. Their central challenge is how to make the model practical and adopted beyond the Re-Value team—testing it with colleagues and external developers without overburdening them, and eventually linking it to decisions about investments in sites such as the former power plant. From Bruges they took inspiration on embedding such assessments in a visible process like the City Atelier, starting with a few pilots and iterating the criteria rather than trying to design the perfect framework from the start. As a follow-up, IC3 will prepare a “City Canvas” capturing the presentation and the discussion, as well as a guidance note on financing and partnership models relevant for each city ([R3](#), [O2.1](#)).

On 28 October, the two cities worked together on a story-building exercise for **IC1**, with a focus on usage of the impact model beyond the pilot area. In the meeting, Písek showed interest in using the impact model as an assessment tool for municipal projects ([O3.1](#)). They presented a demo of their Impact Model based tool. The intention was to use the assessment tool at the beginning of the project to check which dimension is lacking behind. Together, the two cities explored what unique elements an Impact Model Kit could offer compared to other urban planning tools. IC1 followed up with Písek individually afterwards, and Bruges will present this as a city story at the 2026 Consortium meeting ([R3](#), [O2.1](#)). As an outcome, NTNU will also follow up the Impact Model Kit development.

# re-value

In parallel, local partner ECOTEN worked with the Písek to suggest ways to prepare the results of the data collected from the UAV digital twin for possible microclimate simulations assessment, as well as other applications. ECOTEN is also exploring possibilities to upgrade to the urban microclimate simulations tool to make results easier to use in decision-making, embedding data-driven approaches into long-term strategies ([O4.2](#)).

*Collectively, these activities have contributed to several intended outcomes and impacts of Re-Value:*

*O2.1: Leading Cities and Replication Cities take up the participatory Re-Value Story building, Scenario building and Investment & Partnership building strategies*

*O2.2: Citizens/professional stakeholders feel they contributed to the outcomes*

*O3.1: Leading Cities and Replication Cities use the Re-Value Impact Model long-term*

*O3.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities adopt the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol long-term*

*O4.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities embed long-term Re-Value's data-driven co-creation and scenario-building in decision support*

## 2.2.4.5 Communication and Dissemination measures

Písek updated its Re-Value Communication and Dissemination Plan in May 2025, which is available in deliverable D8.7<sup>29</sup> ([CDE6](#)). Throughout 2025, Písek organised a series of workshops centred on citizen engagement and festivals to bring joy to citizens ([CDE1](#)), also hosting its third Innovation Camp ([CDE9](#)) (see details in the previous section). Complementing these activities, Písek's Neighborhood Guide<sup>30</sup> encourages residents to view their neighborhood as a shared home by strengthening community ties and enhancing public spaces through small, collaborative actions. Originally published in Czech by Aktivní Písek, this guide serves as a practical resource for anyone looking to improve their neighborhood—whether through personal initiatives, joint projects, or engagement with local organizations. The table below summarizes Písek's main activities this year. Písek is planning to host a study visit together with the Consortium Meeting in April 2026.

**Table 8: List of local workshops and activities performed in 2025.**

Date	Activity	Participants
04/02/2025	CrAFt Mutual Learning Session: Learning from the CrAFt Cities	30
25/05/2025	Den Země (Earth day)	100
17/05/2025	Pískoviště 2025 - Festival of children's joy	100
13/06/2025	Dotkni se Písku - City festival	1000
29/09/2025	Week of citizen engagement "Hlava v Písku"	200
30/09/2025	Week of citizen engagement "Hlava v Písku" - students workshop	40

<sup>29</sup> [D8.7: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Re-Value Cities 2](#)

<sup>30</sup> [Neighborhood Guide: How to not just live, but also thrive in Písek?](#)

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03/10/2025	Week of citizen engagement "Hlava v Písku" - Architecture Day	50
20/10/2025	Innovation camp, first meeting	50
30/10/2025	Re-Value Caravan, pilot event	50
10/11/2025	3rd Innovation Camp	49

Písek's commitment to sustainability continues through its participation in EU-level initiatives, including the Covenant of Mayors and the European Climate Pact, where it collaborates with Setúbal and Łódź to share experiences and promote citizen-focused climate action. Within the CrAft Cities project, Písek collaborates with local partners such as Písek Maltings to implement New European Bauhaus principles at the neighborhood level. It is also an active member of regional and national networks ([CDE12](#)), such as the Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic, the Association of Municipalities of the Písecko Region (one of the largest associations in the country), and the South Bohemian Chamber of Commerce. These memberships position Písek within emergent platforms that foster knowledge exchange, joint advocacy, and integrated approaches to urban transformation.

## 2.2.5 Rijeka

### 2.2.5.1 Detailed Roadmap

In June 2025, Rijeka submitted the *Explore* part of its Detailed Roadmap, as deliverable D6.8: Detailed Roadmap for the Rijeka Waterfront Pilot.<sup>31</sup> In this document, Rijeka's Waterfront Pilot and the concepts around it are explained, an action plan timeline is proposed for the implementation, and there is mention of the links with relevant strategic documents. Furthermore, the Roadmap presents insights already gained through Re-Value activities, and proposes actions to leverage the three Innovation Cycles to activate the Exportdrvo site and the surrounding waterfront as a living lab for climate-neutral urban transition.

The Rijeka Pilot, originally focused on repurposing Exportdrvo, a former port depot, has expanded into the Rijeka Cultural Corridor, which defines a pedestrian-oriented pathway linking key cultural sites, green spaces, and waterfront access points (see Figure 9). Integrating nature-based solutions, tactical urbanism, and sustainable mobility, it aims to bring both climate resilience and public space activation. Exportdrvo, as one of the central spots in the Corridor, will become a versatile public asset uniting cultural uses, community space, and adaptive reuse of industrial heritage. The Pilot is firmly anchored in Rijeka's key strategic and planning frameworks, ensuring coherence with the city's long-term vision for climate-neutral and culturally driven regeneration. These include the Green Urban Renewal Strategy (2023), the Green Infrastructure Study (2020), and the Rijeka Development Plan 2021–2027, which has goals such as cultural continuity, innovation, and green, people-oriented urban development.

<sup>31</sup> [D6.8: Detailed Roadmap for the Waterfront Pilot in Rijeka](#)

# re-value

Within Re-Value, the Rijeka team aims to accomplish three main tasks: (i) complete a Mobility and Accessibility Plan for the city, (ii) implement two *Urban Seeding*<sup>32</sup> prototypes, and (iii) develop a catalogue of location- and context-specific nature-based solutions.



*Figure 9: Rijeka Cultural Corridor concept, as defined in the city's Detailed Roadmap. It proposes connecting cultural spots through a pedestrian zone that allows new access to the previously inaccessible waterfront.*

The Roadmap further proposes actions to be implemented in the pilot for the last phase of the Re-Value project, aligned with the work of the three Innovation Cycles. Through public engagement activities, workshops with stakeholders, and the use of data and a simulation tools and analyses, the city will focus on narrative development to shape future stories for the Cultural Corridor and Exportdrvo; scenario planning to test spatial and operational futures; and governance prototyping to develop partnership models combining public management, civic participation, and hybrid financing. These actions aim to reframe Rijeka's waterfront as both a physical and symbolic hinge in the city's evolution, positioning Rijeka as a laboratory for inclusive, climate-neutral regeneration that transforms its industrial legacy into a resilient and participatory urban future.

The second *Implement* part of the Detailed Roadmap will describe in more detail the results achieved through Re-Value's Innovation Cycles, and it will outline an implementation roadmap to ensure a structured transition toward climate neutrality. This part of the Roadmap works as a link to the TTP deliverable.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

## 2.2.5.2 Update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans

During the preparation of the Detailed Roadmap, the municipality, together with the local partner UNG, have mapped the regulatory framework for the development of the pilot, as mentioned in the previous section. As a result of this reflection process in Re-Value, the vision of Exportdrvo shifted from a cultural activation site toward a multifunctional, climate-resilient civic infrastructure, capable of testing and

<sup>32</sup> Urban seeding is a tactical urbanism concept, invented by UNG in collaboration with the City of Rijeka in a previous EU project, CLIC. It refers to temporary installations in public spaces that offer short-term improvements while preparing the ground for long-term solutions.

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showcasing green retrofitting, participatory governance, and socially inclusive business models. In the meantime, a concession for 20 years from the State for the Exportdrvo has been approved as of September 2025, and funding from the Cohesion Fund has also been secured for the transformation of the building.

Towards the final phase of the Re-Value project, the city will work on collecting insights, documenting them and using them to propose updates to the city's long-term Territorial Transformation Plans (TTPs). For that purpose, Rijeka participated in the fall of 2025 in a series of TTP Talks (see [R5](#)), where, together with its sister city Ålesund, they discussed some of their interventions in their pilots in terms of the goals and results, the further needs and challenges relevant for updating those plans. The outcome of these workshops can be consulted under Ålesund's relevant section, [2.1.1.1](#).

As a continuation of the work initiated in their Roadmap and explored further during the TTP Talks, in 2026 Rijeka will further examine the main activities performed or planned during the Re-Value project through a policy lens, and will integrate the insights and recommendations into deliverable D6.15: Updated long-term Territorial Transformation Plan towards climate neutrality by 2050, Rijeka.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans*

## 2.2.5.3 Fit for 55 objectives

In its 2020 commitment to the Covenant of Mayors, the City of Rijeka pledged to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by at least 40% by 2030 compared to the 2008 baseline year. This target covers CO<sub>2</sub> and, where relevant, other greenhouse gases, and is to be achieved through improved energy efficiency, enhanced renewable energy production, and more sustainable urban mobility.

In parallel, the City Council adopted the Action Plan for Energy Efficiency 2020–2022, which introduced annual implementation plans to ensure continuous monitoring and adaptation. The plan underwent a revision in 2023, and the City has continued the practice of updating annual implementation measures through 2025, maintaining full alignment with its Covenant of Mayors commitments and the 2030 climate goals. The city has not adopted a higher target than 40%, as the SECAP currently remains the reference document for quantified emission-reduction objectives.

The **Green Urban Renewal Strategy** (Strategija zelene urbane obnove), adopted in July 2024, expands this framework with a more integrated roadmap for achieving EU climate neutrality goals. While the Strategy does not define a separate numerical emissions target, it translates the Fit for 55 objectives into concrete spatial and infrastructural ambitions. These include:

- decarbonisation of public buildings and urban infrastructure
- large-scale energy renovation of the building stock
- expansion of green and blue infrastructure
- increased use of renewable energy at the district and neighbourhood scale
- promotion of low-carbon mobility and walkability
- strengthening climate resilience through nature-based solutions

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The Green Urban Renewal Strategy therefore does not replace the 40% SECAP target, but operationalises Fit for 55 priorities through spatial interventions and pilot zones, including the waterfront and the Exportdrvo area.

Monitoring progress toward emission reductions is conducted through the Covenant of Mayors reporting cycles and the City's annual energy-efficiency implementation plans. The latest available monitoring data (up to 2023 and partially for 2024) indicate steady progress toward the 2030 goal, particularly in the areas of public-building renovation, district heating modernisation, and sustainable mobility measures. More detailed 2025 figures will be available in the next reporting cycle.

Re-Value directly supports Rijeka's climate objectives by focusing on low-carbon, adaptive reuse of the Exportdrvo site and by strengthening climate-sensitive planning practices along the waterfront. Key contributions include:

- integrating energy-efficient retrofitting concepts (e.g. PV potential, green roofing, improved insulation) into scenario development for Exportdrvo
- promoting green-blue infrastructure and climate-resilient public-space design
- enhancing walkability and sustainable mobility connections along the waterfront
- embedding climate neutrality into co-created governance models and community business models
- supporting youth engagement and public participation as part of a long-term cultural shift toward climate-conscious decision making

In 2025, several actions were taken in the pilot sites that contribute indirectly or directly to emissions reduction. These include:

- civic-expert workshops identifying low-carbon restructuring options for the building
- participatory scenario development that compares energy, mobility, and resilience outcomes
- youth-led Innovation Camp proposals focused on sustainable waterfront mobility and energy-aware design
- early testing of temporary, low-impact spatial interventions that improve microclimate comfort and promote active mobility

Together, these activities ensure that the Exportdrvo transformation supports Fit for 55 ambitions not only through future infrastructure investments, but also through cultural, behavioural, and governance shifts grounded in inclusive civic participation.

*These developments contribute to the following outcomes and results:*

*O1.1: Re-Value cities reach Fit for 55 objectives*

## 2.2.5.4 Contribution to intended outcomes and impacts

### Engage

In 2025, Rijeka organised the third **Innovation Camp** ([CDE9](#)), held on 10 April. Bringing together about 60 students from 11 schools, the camp shifted the focus from the Exportdrvo building to the design of a sustainable urban neighbourhood, prompting teams to tackle issues such as circular economy, public space activation, waste reduction, and alternative mobility. Guided by local mentors, students developed

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proposals that combined spatial concepts, financial planning, stakeholder engagement, and long-term sustainability, culminating in public presentations and awards that underscored their role as genuine contributors to the city’s future. Beyond the event itself, the Innovation Camp serves as an educational and civic engagement tool, as it feeds ideas into Re-Value’s narrative development, scenario building, and future pilot adjustments. At the same time, the city commits to continuing the series annually and involving participants in co-creation labs, budgeting experiments, storytelling, and focus groups, thereby embedding climate-neutral thinking in the next generation ([O3.2](#), [O2.2](#)).

On 3 and 4 October, a two-day **environmental action “The Sea Connects – #EUBeachCleanup Rijeka 2025”** took place at Preluk beach, which brought together more than 230 participants—students, volunteers, and divers from Croatia and Slovenia—who joined forces to collect over five cubic meters of waste from the sea and coastline. The action was supported by Re-Value, and participants were given Re-Value T-shirts. The high attendance, both from students and other volunteers, demonstrated the strong commitment of the locals to support environmental action, while the action contributed to create more awareness and collaboration in the community.



*Picture 15: “The Sea Connects – #EUBeachCleanup Rijeka 2025”. Photo: Tanja Kanazir, provided by Rijeka.*

## Collaborate

In the fall of 2025, Rijeka participated in **Sister Space workshops** organised by IC1 and IC3, together with its sister city Ålesund. On 24 September the two cities worked together on a story building exercise for **IC1**, considering limitations and opportunities present in their Re-Value Pilots. Rijeka is focusing on conciliating the different scopes of the pilot, from the Exportdrvo building alone, for funding has been secured, to the whole Delta through the concept of the Cultural Corridor. Following this session, Rijeka will create a story on how the Re-Value journey has evolved around the Exportdrvo. IC1 will follow-up with the city in early 2026 to further prepare for presenting the story at the 2026 Consortium meeting ([R3](#), [O2.1](#)).

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In the **IC3 Sister Space** on 5 December, Rijeka's contribution centred on the adaptive reuse of the Exportdrvo warehouse and the wider Delta waterfront, where former industrial and port assets are being repositioned as a cultural corridor and future mixed-use district after the European Capital of Culture 2020. The city explained how EU structural funds helped renovate large heritage buildings for public cultural use, but also lock them into specific functions for at least five years, creating a tension between public accessibility requirements and the need to generate enough income to cover high energy and maintenance costs. Temporary uses such as a seasonal (artificial) ice-skating rink with surrounding commercial stands, concerts and events illustrate how the city is experimenting with mixed free and paid activities to keep the site vibrant and financially viable without becoming exclusive or fully commercialised. Key challenges discussed included restrictive national rules that currently prevent sharing on-site renewable energy with neighbouring users, and the broader risk of gentrification linked to new marina and tourism-driven investments. From Ålesund and the Re-Value team, Rijeka received suggestions to: explore SPV-type vehicles to strengthen municipal negotiating power with private developers; consider energy-community models and waterfront-based renewable generation as a way to relieve long-term operating costs; and frame EU-level policy recommendations to speed up regulatory changes on energy sharing and long-term heritage reuse. As a follow-up, IC3 will prepare a "City Canvas" capturing the presentation and the discussion, as well as a guidance note on financing and partnership models relevant for each city.

*Collectively, these activities have contributed to several intended outcomes and impacts of Re-Value:*

*O2.1: Leading Cities and Replication Cities take up the participatory Re-Value Story building, Scenario building and Investment & Partnership building strategies*

*O2.2: Citizens/professional stakeholders feel they contributed to the outcomes*

*O3.2: Leading Cities and Replication Cities adopt the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol long-term*

## 2.2.5.5 Communication and Dissemination measures

Rijeka updated its Re-Value Communication and Dissemination Plan in May 2025, which is available in deliverable D8.7<sup>33</sup> ([CDE6](#)). The third Innovation Camp in April was a major event aiming to involve and inform the local youth about planned interventions in the area, with a focus on the repurposing of the Mladost Sports Hall ([CDE9](#)). Another relevant action has been the beach cleanup in October, which engaged a high number of students and other volunteers. See details of both activities in the previous section.

**Table 9: List of local workshops and activities performed in 2025.**

Date	Activity	Participants:
10/04/2025	3rd Innovation Camp: Human-centred design in urban planning for climate-resilient coastal districts	56
03/10/2025	The Sea Connects - #EUBeachCleanup Rijeka 2025	230

<sup>33</sup> [D8.7: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Re-Value Cities 2](#)

## 3. Progress on Project Key Performance Indicators

In this section, the progress during the third project year (January 2025 to December 2025) is reported for each KPI. When relevant, lessons learned are also shared. For the definition of the KPIs and more details regarding the responsible and contributing partners, as well as the means of verification, D7.6: Re-Value M&E Model (second intermediate version)<sup>34</sup> can be consulted.

### 3.1. Results

#### R1: Inclusiveness Protocol

In 2025, work on the Inclusiveness Protocol continued to build on insights and experiences gathered during the previous years. A key lesson from the first two years was that partners could benefit more from concrete, practical tools that support implementation in their local contexts. Subsequent versions of the Inclusiveness and Diversity (I&D) plan would need to include materials such as checklists, indicators, and mapped risks with corresponding mitigation strategies to better translate principles into practice.

Therefore, in the first half of 2025, the Re-Value team prepared an updated Inclusiveness Protocol in deliverable D9.9: Inclusiveness and Diversity Management Plan 3<sup>35</sup> and submitted it in June 2025. The updated protocol was co-created with relevant partners and shared across the consortium, and it provided such supporting material.

In the second half of the year, the focus shifted to ensuring cities are fully aware of it. To support this, WP7 updated the reporting structure for monthly technical board meetings, asking cities to report on actions for Inclusive Participation—concrete steps to bring underrepresented groups into the process, referring to the Re-Value Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol.

The R1 KPI is 1 Inclusiveness Protocol (4 versions). D9.2, D9.5 and D9.9 have already been submitted. The last iteration, D9.12: Inclusiveness and Diversity Management Plan 4, will be submitted in February 2026 (M38).

#### R2: Impact Model addressing six systemic challenges

As reported in the previous M&E report (see D7.5: Re-Value M&E Report 2<sup>36</sup>), in 2024 Task 1.1 on the Impact Model, delivered nine in-person Impact Model workshops across all Re-Value cities. The workshops were created based on the NEB Impact Model Dominoes Game designed by the WP1 lead (NTNU). Six of these workshops were documented in D1.3 Re-Value Impact Model (intermediate version)<sup>37</sup>, with the remaining three to be integrated into D1.5: Re-Value Impact Model (final version) which is due in M42. By mid-2025, all cities had incorporated workshop insights into their Detailed Roadmaps: Leading Cities finalized this in 2024, while Replication Cities completed it by June 2025 (part *Explore*).

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<sup>34</sup> [D7.6: Re-Value M&E Model \(Second Intermediate Version\)](#)

<sup>35</sup> [D9.9: Inclusiveness and Diversity Management Plan 3](#)

<sup>36</sup> [D7.5: Re-Value Monitoring & Evaluation Report 2](#)

<sup>37</sup> [D1.3: Re-Value Impact Model \(intermediate version\)](#)

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Additionally, the **NEB Impact Model Dominoes Game**<sup>38</sup> was launched at the Cities' Mission Conference in May 2025 in Vilnius, distributing over 250 copies. The open-source tool supports accessible engagement with the Impact Model logic and is publicly available via the Re-Value website where all materials (cards, instructions, license, etc.) are available for download and reuse. The version distributed in Vilnius reflects the updated 2025 revision of the Impact Model prepared in collaboration with CrAft. This updated version was developed based on insights provided by Re-Value's WP1 to the CrAft project and is documented as a summary in CrAft's deliverable D1.3 Impact Model<sup>39</sup> published in June 2025.

In 2025, WP1 shifted from individual workshops to a **system-level integration phase**, positioning the **Impact Model as a shared conceptual framework** to structure city work across the project. This approach followed discussions at the Brussels workshop in February 2025, where Work Package leads and the City of Bruges agreed to adopt a more integrated methodology for city journeys.

To operationalise this, WP1 and WP9 designed and implemented *City Spaces* with each Leading City between February and March 2025 (Bruges, Ålesund, Burgas, Rimini). These sessions focused on:

- Embedding Impact Model and other WP1 processes into ongoing city work
- Reviewing strengths, gaps and challenges

The City Spaces generated significant input for WP1 and revealed early advanced use of the Impact Model in Bruges, where the city actively applied it to align policy layers and reflect on systemic change across various disciplines and city departments. A follow-up workshop in **Bruges** (September 2025) confirmed the Impact Model's potential role as a shared language across siloed expertise, supporting systemic reflection within local governance contexts. Bruges also requested a simplified digital format of the Model to support practical use.

In parallel, the Replication City of **Písek** initiated an internal exploration of the Impact Model as a potential evaluation framework for municipal-level projects. In post-Consortium (April 2025) follow-up exchanges, the city expressed interest in using the Model to assess proposals systemically and to better understand cross-sector impacts at the city scale.

Based on these findings, WP1, in alignment with all the other non-city WPs (WP6/7/8/9), refined an integrated project-level approach in the second half of 2025. This approach was embedded within the *Sister Space* format (four Sister groups including one Leading City and one or two Replication Cities) for Innovation Cycles 1 and 3, and TTP Talks (September–December 2025), in which the Impact Model continued to serve as the binding framework.

One of the Sister Spaces explicitly focused on the Impact Model (Bruges–Písek). In this session, the role of the Impact Model in supporting the development of guidelines and related enabling conditions was explored. The City of **Bruges** shared its experience in creating concise and operational systemic developers' guidelines, and in using the Impact Model as a checklist for internal reflection and alignment.

The City of **Písek** further elaborated on its intention to use the Impact Model to develop a project evaluation framework referred to as a "general assessment tool" and articulated a strategic ambition to

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<sup>38</sup> [NEB Impact Model Dominoes Game](#)

<sup>39</sup> [CrAft D1.3: Impact Model](#)

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shift responsibility for assessment from individuals to institutional documentation. The city highlighted the importance of embedding evaluation in stable frameworks, noting that while personnel and political leadership may change, documents and guidelines can ensure continuity over time. In this regard, the Impact Model was viewed as a means of supporting long-term governance consistency and objective decision-making beyond individual discretion.

Looking ahead, Deliverable D1.5 will conclude the Impact Model work by providing the remaining three workshop summaries and by integrating selected insights from the 2025 Sister Spaces. These inputs will be analysed qualitatively using the Impact Model as a structuring framework to provide a cross-project overview of how Innovation Cycles have been taken up systemically and interpreted across cities. The deliverable will also briefly reflect on emerging city-led applications of the Model and include a short reference to the methodology and selected insights used to explore the project's contribution, across the six systemic challenges, to higher-level plans, namely the TTPs.

The results and learnings of the Impact Model are included in the city journeys presented in [Section 2](#).

The R2 KPI is 1 Impact Model (3 versions). The first two versions of the Impact Model were submitted in M11 and M24, as D1.1 and D1.3 respectively. The last deliverable, D1.5: Re-Value Impact Model (final version), is scheduled for completion in M42 (June 2026).

## **R3: Innovation Cycles co-generating and co-qualifying Stories, Scenarios and Investment- and Partnership-building strategies**

All three Innovation Cycles (IC) have started at the kickoff meeting and have been operational since then.

- IC1: Story-building (NTNU); Aligning climate neutrality and urban quality, participatory story-building to identify co-benefits
- IC2: Scenario building (ECOTEN); Co-creating data-driven transition scenarios, empowering cities to use better data / data better
- IC3: Investment & partnership building (GIB); De-risking investments, through value-based financing and partnerships

### **IC1: Story-building**

In 2025, Innovation Cycle 1 (IC1) focused on further operationalising the story-building phase across the Re-Value cities, supporting them in articulating the rationale, target groups, and value frameworks underpinning their climate-neutral waterfront transformation. The work aimed to consolidate story-building as a structured input for the subsequent Innovation Cycles and for the Re-Value Impact Model, in line with the project intervention logic defined in the Grant Agreement.

IC1 activities during the year were organised around three complementary thematic threads. Together, these three threads structured the story-building work so that each city would develop one story per thread, covering the artistic and cultural dimension, the critical reframing of business-as-usual practices, and the connection to scenario-building and investment pathways, resulting in a total of 27 stories across the nine cities (three stories per city), in line with the R3 KPI.

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The first thread concerned the **Short-Term Artistic Missions**, developed in collaboration with Sladovna Písek and Teatret Vårt. This work focused on integrating arts- and culture-based approaches into study visits and city processes, using artistic practices to support reflection, sense-making, and stakeholder engagement. These activities challenged conventional planning approaches by introducing cultural actors as active contributors to urban transformation. In 2025, IC1 worked with İzmir and Cascais.

The second thread, **challenging business-as-usual perspectives**, focused on supporting cities in critically examining established narratives, governance routines, and sectoral silos shaping their waterfront pilots. This thread was primarily operationalised through four Sister Space meetings, which provided a structured peer-learning environment for cities to present, discuss, and reflect on their challenges from non-technical and non-sectoral perspectives. Within these sessions, cities were encouraged to move beyond predefined project framings, explore underlying assumptions, and reframe their challenges as narratives rather than predefined solutions. The Sister Spaces supported cross-city reflection on systemic barriers and enabled cities to test alternative ways of articulating their transformation processes through story-building exercises and facilitated peer exchange.

The third strand focused on **strengthening the connection between IC1 and the other Innovation Cycles**, particularly Scenario-Building (IC2) and Investment and Partnership Building (IC3). The objective is to ensure that the narratives developed through IC1 could be used as qualitative inputs for scenario development, partnership exploration, and impact pathway formulation.

The implementation of IC1 in 2025 revealed both enabling conditions and structural constraints. While several cities demonstrated increased awareness of historical, cultural, and social dimensions relevant to their transformation processes, others faced limitations linked to pre-existing agendas and fixed project frameworks, which reduced flexibility for reframing. Across cities, story-building activities supported experimentation with cultural-sector perspectives and creative methodologies for stakeholder engagement.

A key lesson identified during this reporting period is that the operational links between the Innovation Cycles remain weaker than originally foreseen in the Grant Agreement. Limited coordination has constrained the systematic transfer of narratives from IC1 into IC2 and IC3 workflows. Strengthening cross-cycle coordination is therefore identified as a priority for the next phase, with the aim of improving coherence, knowledge transfer, and cumulative impact across story-building, scenario-building, and investment and partnership development.

## IC2: Scenario building

In 2025, IC2 advanced its work on defining, consolidating, and operationalising the scope of data-driven co-creation and scenario-building activities across the Re-Value cities. A key priority for the year was to better understand the current state, needs, and readiness levels of the cities in applying data-driven approaches to their respective urban transformation projects. This aligns with the project's mission to support cities in using "better data/data better" as outlined in the Description of the Action.

To achieve this, IC2 conducted a detailed review of the cities' Detailed Roadmaps. The information extracted from these documents was systematically analysed and structured into the Re-Value IC2 Cities Canvas, a tailored analytical framework designed to offer a clear, comparable overview of each city's data-driven efforts. The canvas captures key stakeholders and their relationships with the city, core resources, value propositions, co-creation channels, scenario-building activities, and expected impacts. These insights were

further refined using information presented by cities during the April 2025 online Re-Value Consortium Meeting.

Based on this combined analysis, IC2 concluded that each city requires individualised support to strengthen its data capacity, digital infrastructure, and value propositions within its local urban projects. Consequently, IC2 initiated a series of bilateral dialogues with cities to gain a more nuanced understanding of current datasets, tools, and analytical capabilities, as well as plans for enhancing data-driven decision-making. As of this reporting period, IC2 has engaged with Cascais and Constanța and has begun discussions with İzmir regarding its digital twin road-mapping initiative. The IC2 partners are also in dialogue with their respective cities—Ålesund, Bruges, and Písek—to identify opportunities for strengthening data-focused scenario development. Throughout 2026, this outreach will continue across the remaining Re-Value cities to identify innovative pathways for embedding data-driven approaches into scenario-building processes.

Drawing on insights from the above-mentioned engagements, IC2 initiated the development of the Re-Value Scenario-Building webtool, envisioned as a structured, user-friendly tool to support cities in designing data-driven transition scenarios. It was concluded that cities require a stepwise standardised process to go from inputs to outputs, leading to a more transparent and understandable process. This will also allow them to assess their needs in data-driven scenario development and build capacities accordingly. Finally, the webtool allows for co-creation of scenarios in a broad manner because it allows users to understand, check, learn, and comment on different parts. Hence, the webtool is being designed around seven sequential stages:

1. Story Input: Upload IC1 narratives for AI-assisted analysis to suggest indicators and verify alignment of extracted project areas with the identified pilot zones.
2. Translate to Indicators: Review and refine AI-suggested indicators, adjust labels and units, set targets, and add custom metrics to translate visions into measurable outcomes.
3. Tools & Data: Document available datasets and modelling tools, upload supporting resources, assess data availability, and record capacity or resource considerations.
4. Build Scenarios: Create and describe alternative intervention pathways, define pilot areas, highlight key levers, and record underlying assumptions.
5. Model Impacts: Compare and score scenarios across impact categories, integrate external modelling tools, and visualise comparative impact outcomes.
6. Co-Creation Feedback: Present scenarios and visualisations to stakeholders, collect feedback, and iterate to refine and strengthen the scenario logic.
7. Integration: Use IC2 scenario outputs to inform detailed roadmaps, possibly support IC3 work, and provide a technical foundation for subsequent project deliverables.

The Scenario-Building webtool is being developed through iterative cycles by IC2 partners. An initial internal prototype was developed for testing and demonstration purposes. The final version will be created through three structured development cycles, incorporating co-creation activities with Re-Value cities and WP1 partners. This collaborative development model reflects the principles of user-centred design and methodological co-production promoted by WP1 and ensures that cities, which are the primary end-users, can directly influence the technical functionality, methodological soundness, and practical relevance of the tool. This approach also supports the Re-Value requirement that beneficiaries implement their actions to their best abilities, ensuring alignment with the project's objectives and quality standards. The webtool is currently being developed in final stages while being tested by LCs for data-driven scenario development

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according to their roadmaps. It will be soon used by RCs to develop their scenarios replicating LCs experiences.

## **IC3: Investment & partnership building**

In 2025, IC3's work with the cities focused around the concept of Sister Spaces, under the consolidated consortium action plan until the end of the program. Building on the City Finance Dialogues of the previous year, IC3 Sister Spaces were designed to enable an in-depth discussion between the designated sister cities, on their chosen interventions and in regard to the financing and partnerships models. The Sister Spaces provided an occasion for each of the cities to get the other city's perspective on specific issues, share what has worked for them in that domain, or where they equally struggle to see solutions. In preparation for the Sister Spaces, IC3 met with all cities to define the topics of discussion and to understand what they considered most relevant to share and get support on in this last phase of Re-Value.

In total, 18 45min-long preparatory sessions were conducted with each of the cities, followed by four 2h-long Sister Space workshops. Cities focused on an array of topics from improvement of existing partnership and financing models, to challenges with financing the maintenance of implemented greening measures, as well as inclusion of private sector funding into their funding base. They presented the following: project scope, expected outcomes, approaches explored so far, lessons learned, key enablers, and the key outstanding challenge. Each city then had 40 minutes to discuss the presented issues with another city, allowing for a more in-depth exchange. Details of these workshops can be found in the respective city sections in [Section 2](#).

An important outcome of these sessions are the "City Canvases". They consist of two parts: a) a capture of the presentation and the discussion, including an interview-like section with all questions discussed during the 40 minute exchange; and b) a guidance note provided by GIB (IC3), including the 18 financing and partnership models, which form the key deliverable of this Innovation Cycle.

The R3 KPI is 3 Innovation Cycles, 27 Stories (3/city), 23 Scenarios (2/LC, 3/RC) and 18 Investment- and Partnership-building concepts (2/city). Work is ongoing in all Innovation Cycles, with specific resulting stories, scenarios and financing and partnership models expected in the last project year. They will be documented in D1.6: Re-Value Innovation Cycles Experience-Based Report 3 due in M36, June 2026.

## **R4: Re-Value Portfolio of Urban Design and Planning Approaches**

The Re-Value Portfolio of Urban Design and Planning Approaches ("Portfolio") is a compilation of good and emergent urban planning and design practices, approaches, methods and tools being implemented in Re-Value Cities. The Portfolio's aim is to inform, inspire, and encourage collaborative learning within the Re-Value Community of Practice, and eventually with all European cities as they work to update their urban policies, processes, and practices to help achieve the European Green Deal's goal to become the first climate-neutral continent in the world.

The first version of the Re-Value Urban Planning and Design Approaches Portfolio (D6.3) was submitted in late 2024. Originally conceived to be a collaborative work-in-progress, the Portfolio will be updated in 2026 with new methods, tools, and collaboration models that directly result from the Re-Value Cities working

with the Impact Model (WP1), Innovation Cycles (WP1), and the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol (W9) in 2025 and 2026. The Re-Value Cities have been in a continuous learning posture throughout 2025, taking inspiration from one another via Study Visits, online webinars with the Community of Practice (Rounds), peer reviewing their individual Roadmaps, and during focused conversations during targeted Sister Spaces and TTP Talks hosted by WP1.

The R4 KPI is 1 Portfolio (2 versions) with 48 approaches. The first version of the Portfolio, D6.3: Re-Value Urban Design and Planning Approaches (initial version), was submitted in M23 showcasing 49 approaches.

## R5: Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots & update of Long-term Territorial Transformation Plans

During the project, each city will develop a Detailed Roadmap and report detailing strategies for the update of their long-term Territorial Transformation Plans (TTP). Leading Cities have submitted their **Detailed Roadmap** in 2024 and started preparing the long-term TTP, building on their Full-scale Deployment experience (see [R6](#)). Replication Cities continued working towards delivering their Detailed Roadmaps and submitted these deliverables in June 2025 (M30), as described in the relevant city sections. In 2024, the Detailed Roadmaps for Waterfront Pilots for Replication Cities were separated into two phases to accommodate the Re-Value work flow: *Explore* and *Implement*. After internal discussion, the *Implement* document will include documentation of the Replication Cities' Innovation Cycle experiences, as well as guide the preparation for the long-term TTPs deliverable.

The **TTP deliverables** are scheduled to be submitted in the last year of the project, and in 2025 there was an effort to draw a pathway towards them. In particular, in spring 2025, Ålesund and Bruges took initiative to discuss what “updating the TTPs” means by drafting together how the “Updated TTPs” deliverable for Re-Value should look like. Other cities agreed, and NTNU facilitated the collaboration. The process and outcomes have been summarized in a document shared by NTNU with all the cities prior to Cascais Study Visit in fall. As the document is meant to be a guide for cities with their TTPs deliverables in 2026, comments from all are collected and addressed until the end of 2025 (including iterations with WP6 lead).

Beside this, a process (called “**TTP Talks**”, part of WP1 Sister Spaces for cities and ICs) has been organized to discuss the document and, most importantly, the work on the ground around some Re-Value systemic challenges—NbS, energy & mobility, cultural & spatial quality and governance. Planning and scheduling took place in May-June, while the sessions were held between October and December. By the end of 2025 all TTP Talks are completed, except for governance, which will be scheduled in 2026. The remaining two systemic challenges are covered by IC2 and IC3 work, so there will not be dedicated TTP Talks for those. In a coordination effort among WP1 and WP6, this process is complemented by Expert Exchanges, organized by ICLEI as part of the Capacity Building and Exchange Program, where external experts are invited to provide complementary knowledge around the systemic challenges at focus.

Each TTP Talk is thought as a 2h reflection stop with cities (clustered in Sister groups, with at least one LC and one RC) and Re-Value experts, with preparatory work: building on their Roadmaps and Full-scale deployment work, cities are mapping their actions before the session via a dedicated framework in Miro board; experts are analysing this as a group. During the session, NTNU shares key concepts about the path towards updated TTPs and leaves space for discussion. Then, cities share their actions with their Sister and the group. Based on common interests and intentions, the group collectively focuses on one action/area of

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improvement and reflects on expected outcomes, needs, challenges and next steps for a systemic change and an actual influence of Re-Value practices, strategies and learnings at the city level. After the session, a summary is distributed for collective review and for provoking new insights. The Miro boards will remain available in 2026 as frameworks for the cities to keep doing this reflection and documentation work locally. At project level, the outputs will be further used in 2026 to reflect on challenges and needs for systemic changes.

Details of the TTP Talks for each Re-Value city are provided in Section 2.

From this year's work, we have learned the following points for the year ahead:

- Ålesund and Bruges found the collaboration around the TTPs topic very valuable. Other cities generally showed satisfaction for receiving guidance on the connected deliverables. Next year, the project should keep working on building a common understanding of it.
- One of the hardest tasks in the process of clarifying the work with TTPs has been aligning the project and urban planning vocabulary, made even more complex by local specificity of the latter. A visual was produced and could be further exploited in the future.
- Setting up a process involving two to six cities at once, including experts and observers has been a very complex and time consuming management task. Overall, it could be repeated in the presence of very clear goals for all.
- Having observers in the city spaces helped documentation and building better knowledge and alignment at the project level. It will be important not to lose the momentum
- The structure of the TTP Talks has space for improvement. Some adjustments have been made between the 2nd and 3rd round and will be further implemented in planning the 4th and last round in 2026.
- Sometimes the discussion in TTP Talks remained at the surface. This is addressed by trying to focus on specific testing experiences from LCs and increase learnings and possibilities for new insights.

The R5 KPI is 9 Detailed Roadmaps and 9 strategies to update long-term territorial transformation plans. The Detailed Roadmaps for Leading Cities were all finished by M24, and the Detailed Roadmaps for Replication Cities were all finished by M30. The second *Implement* phase of the Roadmaps for RCs, as well as the strategies for updating the TTPs are planned for the second half of 2026. A supporting strategy from WP1 and WP6 is under discussion.

## R6: Full-Scale Deployment in Leading Cities' Waterfront Pilots

In each of the four Leading Cities (Ålesund, Bruges, Burgas, Rimini), the municipality, local partners, associates and stakeholders have been working together to implement the Impact Model, identify prioritised urban design and planning approaches, develop Detailed Roadmaps, and carry out activities and projects for the Full-Scale Deployment. Work performed in this reporting period related to Full-scale Deployment of the Leading Cities is reported in the respective city journeys in Section 2.

The Full-scale deployment deliverables are scheduled later in the project. However, the effort done this year in clarifying and supporting the work around the TTPs has also been instrumental for the cities to work on their Full-scale Deployment. The developed guiding document and the TTP Talks process supports them in mapping their actions and gaining new insights for their implementation work (see R5 for more details). Indeed, as the *Implement* part of RCs Roadmaps is a preparatory step for their TTPs deliverable (ref. R5), so

is the Full-scale deployment for LCs' TTPs deliverable. During the TTP Talks, LCs had the chance to share some of the actions implemented in their pilots and, while doing that, documenting them and reflecting on the outcomes and needs further. The framework provided in the context of the TTP Talks could be further used by LCs to reflect on observed outcomes and added value from other implemented actions not covered during the sessions to discover what should be anchored at the city level (with updated TTPs). Similarly, RCs could do the same with a focus on future actions and expected outcomes and needs, populating their updated Roadmaps and TTPs.

The same lessons described under R5 are applicable here.

The R6 KPI is 4 Full-Scale Deployment reports, which are due in 2026.

## R7: Co-created Capacity Building and Exchange Programme

In 2025, the Re-Value Capacity Development and Exchange Programme (CD&E Programme) completed Programme Year 2 (September 2024–June 2025), and co-designed and launched the final Programme Year 3 in September 2025 (M33). The activities, outputs, results and lessons learned from this task are documented in detail in D6.9: Re-Value Capacity Development and Exchange Programme, Version 3 (submitted M30)<sup>40</sup>.

Programme Year 3 is focused on “Supporting the Re-Value City Journey,” and reflects a renewed focus on enabling and strengthening the Re-Value-inspired work of the cities themselves. The first semester is dedicated to introducing targeted content to deepen learning, and facilitating the application of project approaches within local contexts. The second semester shifts toward harvesting and synthesising insights that emerge from this hands-on work, laying the groundwork for sharing these learnings across the broader Cities Mission ecosystem via the Portfolio, including via the NetZeroCities portal.

Rather than being a standalone series of events, the Year 3 CD&E Programme is embedded within the project's operational backbone—offering cities both the support they need to advance their local innovation pathways and the structure to collectively reflect on what's working, what's emerging, and what should be shared. The ultimate aim is to co-produce meaningful outcomes and insights, grounded in practice, that resonate across the Cities Mission community and wider European efforts.

The Year 3 CD&E Programme still maintains the core components of the previous years: Rounds, Study Visits and Peer Review. However, in support of the renewed focus, the Rounds are deployed in two new formats: City-to-City (C2C) **Insight Rounds** and **Expert Exchanges**.

In the 2025 reporting period (M25 to M36), the CD&E Programme delivered four city-led Re-Value Rounds (Digital Engagement, Governance Innovations, Sustainable Mobility, Urban Planning and Climate Change Adaptation), one Expert Exchange on “Streets for Living”, one C2C Insight Round, and one Study Visit and Mini Consortium Meeting (Cascais, Portugal). It also co-created one combined Study Visit and Consortium Meeting in İzmir, Türkiye (an in-person event that was cancelled in early April 2025 due to *force majeure*) and one Peer Review cycle for the Replication Cities' Waterfront Pilot Roadmaps (M29).

The R7 KPI is 1 Capacity Building and Exchange Programme. The Re-Value CD&E Programme is described in the WP6 Deliverables D6.1, D6.2, and D6.9 (submitted in M30).

<sup>40</sup> [D6.9: Re-Value Capacity Development and Exchange Programme, Version 3](#)

## R8: Peer-to-Peer Collaboration Space and capacity building support

An invitation-only [Re-Value Cities group](#) on the [NetZeroCities Portal](#) was established in M6 to provide project partners with an online space for peer-to-peer collaboration, sharing, and access to the 112 selected Mission Cities (as well as 181 registered cities and 1 333 registered users) and NetZeroCities resources like the [Knowledge Repository](#), [Finance Guidance Tool](#), [Engagement Strategy Tools](#), [Events](#) (including capacity building webinars). However, despite successfully registering and on-boarding 55 Re-Value members to the NZC Portal to activate the group, the platform has been seldom visited or used to its full potential.

The Re-Value Cities group was not animated in 2025, as detailed in D6.9: Re-Value Capacity Development and Exchange Programme, Version 3.<sup>41</sup> Select legacy materials from the Capacity Development and Exchange Programme, as well as from key work flows in WP1, will be packaged-for-purpose and submitted to the NZC Knowledge Repository in 2026.

The R8 KPI is 1 Collaboration space, 100 cities reached. The collaboration space was set up in M6, and while there is the potential to reach more than 100 cities through the portal, engagement with them has not yet started in this reporting period.

## R9: Re-Value Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and dialogues with NetZeroCities

The Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Framework was updated in September 2025, drawing on insights from the KPI reporting process and consultations with all WP7 partners. The most notable enhancement introduced during this update was the inclusion of **city journeys** as a core reporting element. This addition was agreed during a cross-WP meeting in February 2025 and was designed to strengthen the visibility of city-level progress, facilitate the documentation of changes on the ground, and illustrate how Re-Value is creating value for each city in relation to the project's overall objectives and intended impacts. By involving cities more directly in the reporting process, the city journeys also generated richer insights while reducing the need for individual KPI-responsible partners to contact cities separately. These updates, along with a small number of accompanying adjustments, are documented in D7.6: Re-Value M&E Model (second intermediate version).<sup>42</sup>

In parallel, 2025 saw significant progress in both addressing reporting backlogs from previous years and strengthening the project's overall approach to insight generation. Recognising the importance of understanding not only activities and outputs but also emerging shifts in thinking and working practices within the cities, WP7 initiated a structured process to strengthen the project's **impact pathways** as a supporting tool. A series of co-creation impact workshops held in spring 2025 contributed to this work, helping partners develop a more integrated understanding of the project's expected outcomes and impacts and jointly prioritise the activities most likely to advance them.

Despite these advances, collecting the full range of information required for comprehensive monitoring remained challenging. Parallel workloads with cities and the fact that several processes are still unfolding limited the ability to gather consistent inputs across all project KPIs. In addition, capturing more subtle, incremental shifts in attitudes and ways of working—an essential part of understanding Re-Value's

<sup>41</sup> [D6.9: Re-Value Capacity Development and Exchange Programme, Version 3](#)

<sup>42</sup> [D7.6: Re-Value Monitoring & Evaluation Model \(second intermediate version\)](#)

transformative effects—proved particularly difficult. This is particularly the case because these changes emerge gradually, are closely intertwined with ongoing local processes, and are difficult to articulate while they are still unfolding. These challenges, however, provided useful clarity on where additional coordination and shared reflection are needed. In response, WP7 has prompted a collaborative effort to position the final project year as a “reflection year”, ensuring that processes are put in place to gather the qualitative reflections needed to identify transformative change. These will include dedicated WP7 workshops or interviews with the cities, as well as reflection-focused structures for the cities’ final deliverables.

Further, D7.7: Re-Value Impact Dialogues with NetZeroCities 2<sup>43</sup> (submitted in M33, September 2025) reports on the exchanges and **interaction between NetZeroCities and Re-Value**. A Memorandum of Understanding between the two projects is being finalised as of 15 December 2025 and will be signed shortly. In 2025, regular participation in Mission Platform cluster meetings hosted by CINEA and DG RTD continued, while cooperation intensified through close coordination with the sister projects UP2030 and CLIMABOROUGH. Since late 2024, the three projects held monthly joint cluster meetings to align activities, develop synergies, and coordinate their contribution to the 2025 Cities Mission Conference. This collaboration is explained in detail under [CDE8](#).

Re-Value cities also strengthened their engagement with the Mission ecosystem. İzmir advanced significantly in its dual role as both a Re-Value city and a Mission City, holding monthly meetings with its City Advisor and aligning its Climate City Contract with its Re-Value Waterfront Pilot. Several other Re-Value cities became active within their national Mission-related networks: Ålesund through Norway’s Mission Forum, Cascais through the NZC Twinning Learning Programme, Constanța through Romania’s M100 Mirror Cities Hub (where it initiated an ambitious Climate City Contract process), and Rimini through the Italian Mission Cities network “Let’s GOv.” More details are available in the respective sections in [Section 2](#). These national platforms provided opportunities for dialogue with ministries, joint workshops, and peer learning on governance, data, and financing for climate neutrality.

The R9 KPI is 4 versions of the M&E Framework (D7.1, D7.3 and D7.6 submitted), 4 open-access M&E Reports (D7.2 and D7.5 submitted) and 3 reports of the Dialogues with NetZeroCities (D7.4 and D7.7 submitted).

## R10: Improvement of Societal Readiness Levels

Progress on this result will be identified and described in the Deliverable series of T8.3 Re-Value Stories (D8.6: Re-Value Exploitable Results 1, and following ones), supported by WP1 (Impact Model and three Innovation Cycles), WP6 (Portfolio of Value-Based Urban Design and Planning Approaches), and WP9 (e.g. T9.3 Inclusiveness and diversity management) tasks.

In 2025, T8.3 work is integrated into the project activities, for example through:

- Regular city dialogues & coaching, such as Sister Space meetings and TTP talks
- Regular cross-cutting replication team meetings
- Review of and feedback to project activities and reports
- Low-threshold feedback from participants in Re-Value workshops and events

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<sup>43</sup> [D7.7: Re-Value Impact Dialogues with NetZeroCities 2](#)

The project intends to measure the Societal Readiness Levels (SRLs) through the categories developed by Innovation Fund Denmark.<sup>44</sup> The project has been searching an actionable framework for the increase of the SRLs, starting to assess The NewHorizon Societal Readiness Thinking Tool,<sup>45</sup> which uses principles of Reflection, Inclusion, Anticipation, and Responsiveness. A more detailed description is developed linked with the Inclusiveness and Diversity work in the project (see D9.9: Inclusiveness and Diversity Management Plan 3<sup>46</sup>). However, assessing SRLs has been challenging due to a noticeable misalignment between the activities described in the Grant Agreement and the priorities emerging from the cities' Waterfront Pilots. Such deviations are common in complex, dynamic and multi-variable research contexts, where local needs evolve and implementation pathways are adapted. This has required the M&E team to interpret societal readiness in a more flexible and context-specific manner, drawing on qualitative evidence and city-driven learning processes rather than strict alignment with predefined indicators.

The R10 KPI is 29 initiatives to SRL 9, 3 to SRL 8, 2 to SRL 7, 3 to SRL 6 and 1 new action to SRL 4. This longer term impact will be assessed, to the extent possible, in the last year of the project.

## 3.2. Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation measures

### CDE1: Local workshops

Between January 2025 (M25) and December (M36) 2025, the waterfront cities have been engaging directly with local stakeholders through various means. In the project, we aim to organise at least 216 local workshops defined as “local stakeholder engagement activity (i.e., meeting, workshop, event booth/table, interviews, focus group, etc.) hosted by the local project team that enables a two-way dialogue to 1) inform stakeholders about the project and its approach, and 2) collect input and feedback/facilitate collaboration about planned interventions/innovations in the local Re-Value Waterfront Pilot and/or project study area” engaging about 6 480 locals across the cities. This does not include the local engagement done in the Innovation Camps, Artistic Missions, nor Study Visits, but does include the Impact Model Workshops engaging the local stakeholders. This comes at around 24 workshops of different types per city.

In the period, a total of 82 workshop activities have taken place, with around 3 000 participants. These activities range from large-scale engagement such as the Kaai Party in Bruges, which had more than 300 participants,<sup>47</sup> to engagement activities in partnership with relevant local stakeholders and youth such as the (Re)Thinking Cascais Waterfront - Carcavelos Beach and Guia Road Pilot in Cascais, allowing for more holistic urban planning and design.<sup>48</sup> Below is a summary of the activities organised in each city, while more details are given in the progress section for each individual city in Section 2.

**Table 10: Summary of local workshops performed in 2025 for all Re-Value cities.**

City	Number of local workshops	Total participants
Ålesund	11	597

<sup>44</sup> [https://innovationsfonden.dk/sites/default/files/2019-03/societal\\_readiness\\_levels\\_-\\_srl.pdf](https://innovationsfonden.dk/sites/default/files/2019-03/societal_readiness_levels_-_srl.pdf)

<sup>45</sup> <https://newhorizon.eu/thinking-tool/>

<sup>46</sup> [D9.9: Inclusiveness and Diversity Management Plan 3](#)

<sup>47</sup> <https://re-value-cities.eu/multimedia/bruges-kaai-party-celebration-neighbourhood-motion>

<sup>48</sup> [Link](#) to LinkedIn post.

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Bruges	16	785
Burgas	3	77
Rimini	6	331
Cascais	16	370
Constanța	6	273
İzmir	16	72
Písek	8	590
Rijeka	0	0

One takeaway from the local activities to bear in mind going forward is a generally positive reception of the workshops, particularly because they are strongly geographically anchored in the demonstration sites.

A few lessons learned from the cities follow:

- The more the cities communicate about Re-Value, the more their stories start to live in the minds of the stakeholders.
- Stakeholders prefer having face-to-face conversations rather than reading mails. Door-to-door visits are very time consuming but also very valuable.
- Stakeholders like to be involved, if you give them the feeling that they have choices, the right to decide, even if, in reality, their margins for manoeuvring are not so large.
- The whole process of community building takes a lot of time. Extra people working on the project were very welcome.
- Digital initiatives typically offer the advantage of reaching a larger audience, but in-person events foster a stronger commitment to the project.
- Although larger events obviously help to involve more stakeholders, smaller events promote greater involvement. When it's not possible to organise small events, it's beneficial to divide the participants into sub-groups.
- Informal events tend to create a more comfortable environment, encouraging participants to share their experiences and opinions.
- Regarding local community involvement, few adults are more curious and enthusiastic than children. Promoting family initiatives helps to reach out to the community.

The CDE1 KPI is 216 local workshops (24 per city) over four years with 6 480 Stakeholders. With 82 workshops and more than 3 000 participants in the second year of the project, this KPI is on a steady course for success.

## CDE2: Travel Punch Card for Re-Value Cities to visit each other

The Re-Value CD&E Programme highly values in-person interaction. As such, Re-Value Cities have financial resources (allocated via each city's "Travel Punch Card"), to travel to and participate in Study Visits to support this cross-cutting approach. Three representatives from each Replication City have an allocated budget to travel to larger capacity development events in each of the four Leading Cities: Ålesund, Bruges,

Burgas and Rimini. Conversely, two members from each Leading City have a budget allocated to join three capacity development events in any of the five Replication Cities: Cascais, Constanța, İzmir, Písek, or Rijeka. However, the Travel Punch Card funds are flexible and can be used to participate in as many Study Visits as feasible, depending on shared interests and challenges between cities. For more details, see D6.1: Re-Value Capacity Development and Exchange Programme, Version 2.<sup>49</sup>

One Study Visit occurred between M25-M36:

- Cascais, Portugal (October 2025): Replication City Study Visit focused on Nature-based Solutions, Circularity, and Energy

A combined Consortium Meeting and Study Visit was originally planned in Q1 2025, with dates set for 8–10 April in İzmir. Due to an unstable political situation in Türkiye at that time, the in-person meeting could not proceed and was moved online, taking place on 8–10 April, 13 May, and 15 May 2025. The Study Visit component was cancelled and is not expected to be rescheduled.

Summary of Re-Value City Participation in Re-Value Study Visits (SV), which are in some instances combined with the Consortium Meeting (CM), Kick-off meeting (KOM) or final event (FINAL):

Destination / Host	Ålesund SV/CM	Bruges KOM & FINAL	Burgas SV	Rimini SV	Cascais SV	Constanța SV	İzmir SV/CM (online)	Písek SV	Rijeka SV
Participants									
Ålesund	host		0	0	2	0	0		5
Bruges	2	host	2	2	2	2	0		2
Burgas	4		host	3	4	3	0		4
Rimini	2		0	host	2	2	0		2
Cascais	1		0	0	host	0	0		2
Constanța	5		4	5	3	host	0		4
İzmir	4		1	3	2	0	host		2
Písek	3		3	2	3	3	0	host	2
Rijeka	1		1	2	2	1	0		host
Total	22		11	17	20	11	0		23

The Study Visits were initially conceived as 2-day exchange visits only for Re-Value Cities with few scientific partners or external involvement, but they have proven to be a very popular central exchange and learning moment for most of the partnership. Each Study Visit usually has about 40 active participants. Cities and project partners have been using their flexible budget to participate in as many Study Visits as possible, instead of the initially-conceived format of Replication Cities to Leading Cities and vice versa.

The CDE2 KPI is 84 (6\*4+12\*5) person-visits. During the third project year, 20 person-visits were made by other city representatives for one Study Visit. This brings the total to 104 person-visits.

<sup>49</sup> [D6.1: Re-Value Capacity Development and Exchange Programme, Version 1](#)

## CDE3: Re-Value website and social media

In the third year of the project, the website was updated with cities' relevant activities, news, events and publications. A significant amount of videos (including the Mini Rounds created from the Re-Value Rounds Year 1 and Year 2 series<sup>50</sup> and different videos produced by the cities) have been uploaded to the Multimedia<sup>51</sup> section of the website, and all newsletter issues sent out so far have been added to the dedicated section.<sup>52</sup> In addition, three new webpages have been designed and added to the website: **NEB Impact Model Dominoes**<sup>53</sup> dedicated to the innovative game developed by NTNU, **Re-Value Your Waterfront**<sup>54</sup> dedicated to the new Re-Value Communications Campaign launched in October 2025 and running until the summer of 2026, and **Re-Value Rounds**<sup>55</sup> dedicated to the webinars supporting learning and knowledge exchange across the Re-Value partnership. The Campaign launch has resulted in a peak in visits. The Campaign launch has resulted in a peak in visits. It is worth mentioning that the Re-Value website was selected for the **.eu Web Awards**<sup>56</sup> as one of the finalists in the category Sustainability Champion in October 2025 and this has also driven more traffic to the website.

At the beginning of the project, three social media pages were created on LinkedIn, Instagram, and on X (previously Twitter). While LinkedIn and Instagram have proven to be extremely valuable to engage the community of practice and external stakeholders, X (previously Twitter) has not been as successful, perhaps due to increasing disinformation sharing and consequent shift of practitioners and academics to other platforms. Due to these reasons, the account has been phased out following as discussed in the last review meeting.

Social media content about study visits, Re-Value Rounds, innovation camps, local workshops and external events has been shared on LinkedIn and Instagram in a very consistent way since October 2024. Pictures and videos from October 2024 Venice Biennale Workshop and Rijeka Study Visit have been and will be used to create Instagram Stories and Reels. Before the 2024 Christmas holidays, a series of posts featuring the Best of 2024 Moments Together was shared. 2025 started with a series of posts dedicated to promoting the Re-Value Mini Rounds, starting from the full playlist on Inclusiveness and Diversity and continuing with some ad-hoc ones from the New European Bauhaus, Landscape Transformations, Tactical Urbanism, Energy Transition in Cities, Sustainable Mobility in Italy, and Urban Planning and Climate Change Adaptation playlists. In April and May, Re-Value participation in the 2025 Cities Mission Conference was widely promoted. September was dedicated to the Road to Cascais Study Visit post series and October to the launch of the Re-Value Your Waterfront Campaign and to the Road to the UP2030 Final Conference post series.

From January 2025 (M25) until December 2025 (M36), the website had 29 210 pageviews spread over 18 331 visits. The LinkedIn account accumulated a reach of 30 333 impressions. The CDE3 KPI requires that Re-Value achievements are shared across all selected channels, which has been achieved in the third reporting period.

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<sup>50</sup> [D6.2: Re-Value Capacity Development and Exchange Programme, Version 2](#)

<sup>51</sup> <https://re-value-cities.eu/multimedia>

<sup>52</sup> <https://re-value-cities.eu/newsletter>

<sup>53</sup> <https://re-value-cities.eu/documents/neb-impact-model-dominoes>

<sup>54</sup> <https://re-value-cities.eu/re-value-your-waterfront>

<sup>55</sup> <https://re-value-cities.eu/re-value-rounds>

<sup>56</sup> <https://eurid.eu/en/about-eurid/eu-web-awards/>

From this year's activities, we observed that the website has become a much more powerful dissemination tool compared to the first phase of the project. On Social Media, LinkedIn has been (and we expect will remain until the end of the project) by far the most powerful outlet on the EU-level.

The CDE3 KPI is 1 Re-Value website, Re-Value presence on social media. Deliverable D8.1 (submitted), D8.4 (submitted)<sup>57</sup> and D8.8 (submitted) describe the status of these measures.

## CDE4: Newsletters

In the period, three newsletters were sent by Re-Value from the [Informed Cities Newsletter](#) in [February 2025](#), [June 2025](#) and [December 2025](#). The CDE4 KPI is 8 published newsletters and five have been sent out so far, meaning we are on track with the expectation for the full project. The remaining issues have been mapped in an Editorial Calendar including three issues in 2026. This is in line with the plan, as all EU-funded projects tend to deliver more results, and thus higher value for readers, later in the project.

## CDE5: Scientific open access publications

Based on work carried out in the project, the Re-Value team continued to develop scientific publications throughout 2025. A total of six publications were completed, including international journal articles, field studies, and peer-reviewed conference papers. Several other manuscripts are under development, and existing conference contributions may serve as the foundation for larger collaborative articles.

### Published Outputs:

- **Two peer-reviewed articles in international journals:**
  - *Digital Geospatial Twinning for Revaluation of a Waterfront Urban Park Design (Case Study: Burgas City, Bulgaria)*<sup>58</sup> – published in **Land**, authored by Sofia University and the City of Burgas. See more details in Burgas section [2.1.3.4](#).
  - *Towards Climate Adaptation: A Case Study of a Coastal City in Portugal*<sup>59</sup> – published in **Building and Environment**, authored by LNEG and the City of Cascais. See more details in Cascais section [2.2.1.5](#).
- **Two reports on field studies from İZPA and İzmir (in Turkish, to be translated to English in 2026):**
  - *Co-Diagnosis – Şevket Özçelik Street: Assessing Public Space Quality*<sup>60</sup>
  - *Co-Diagnosis – İnciraltı Urban Forest: Assessing Public Space Quality*<sup>61</sup>  
See more details in İzmir section [2.2.3.5](#).
- **Two peer-reviewed conference papers from NTNU:**
  - *Open Urban Innovation Ecosystems – Integration of Data, Services, and Stakeholders*<sup>62</sup>  
(based on experience from Re-Value, NEB-STAR, +CityxChange)

<sup>57</sup> [D8.1: Re-Value Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan 1](#) and [D8.4: Re-Value Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan 2](#)

<sup>58</sup> [Digital Geospatial Twinning for Revaluation of a Waterfront Urban Park Design \(Case Study: Burgas City, Bulgaria\)](#)

<sup>59</sup> [Towards climate adaptation: a case study of a Coastal City in Portugal](#)

<sup>60</sup> [BİRLİKTE TANI-ŞEVKET ÖZÇELİK SOKAK KAMUSAL ALAN YAŞAM KALİTESİNİN ÖLÇÜMÜ](#)

<sup>61</sup> [BİRLİKTE-TANI İNCİRALTI KENT ORMANI:KAMUSAL ALAN YAŞAM KALİTESİNİN ÖLÇÜMÜ](#)

<sup>62</sup> [Open Urban Innovation Ecosystems - Integration of Data, Services, and Stakeholders: Discussion Paper](#)

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- *Temporal Aspects in Process Support for Urban Digital Twins*<sup>63</sup> (based on experience from Re-Value, NEB-STAR)

The two conference papers address critical technical challenges and draw on insights from multiple projects (Re-Value, NEB-STAR, +CityxChange). These contributions could form the basis for larger collaborative publications.

The CDE5 KPI is 9 open-access scientific publications. During the third project year, six publications have been completed, and additional manuscripts are currently under development.

## **CDE6: Re-Value CDE Plan & Local Communication Plans**

The first overall CDE Plan was submitted in M9 of the project as D8.1: Re-Value Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan 1,<sup>64</sup> and the local CDE Plans were submitted in M18 as D8.2: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Leading and Replication Cities 1.<sup>65</sup> The overall CDE Plan has been updated and submitted in M24,<sup>66</sup> while the local CDE Plans have been updated and submitted as D8.7: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Leading and Replication Cities 2 in M29.<sup>67</sup> The Re-Value comms team is currently working on the third and last update of the CDE Plan, which will be submitted now in December (M36). In pure numerical terms, this means two CDE plans and eighteen local plans have been submitted, and work will continue to deliver all updates in the final year of the project.

The CDE Plan (and work on the other plans) supported the sense-making phase well, but following versions of these plans benefited from clearer roadmaps in each of the nine Re-Value cities and for the project as a whole.

## **CDE7: Local-language “Urban Transformations” webinars**

Local-language “Urban Transformation” webinars were initially conceived as a pathway for Re-Value Cities to engage with Mission Cities (and “Mission-minded Cities”) via NZC National Platforms in the same linguistic, regulatory and cultural context about the policies and processes related to their climate neutrality journey. As noted in previous reports, the development of NZC National Platforms has progressed more slowly than anticipated, and engagement can present challenges for cities that are not designated as Mission Cities. During the 2025 monitoring period, no ‘Urban Transformation’ webinars were exclusively hosted by Re-Value Cities in their local language. This is largely because Re-Value Cities have prioritised Roadmap implementation and begun identifying which planning and policy processes may need adjustment as part of their Territorial Transformation Plan (due in the second half of 2026). Early 2026 will therefore be an opportune time to share Re-Value Cities’ experiences and discuss implementation challenges.

The CDE7 KPI is at least 9 webinars (up to 3 per Re-Value City). The “Urban Transformations” webinars are foreseen in 2026.

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<sup>63</sup> [Temporal Aspects in Process Support for Urban Digital Twins](#)

<sup>64</sup> [D8.1 Re-Value Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan 1](#)

<sup>65</sup> [D8.2: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Leading and Replication Cities 1](#)

<sup>66</sup> [D8.4 Re-Value Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Plan 2](#)

<sup>67</sup> [D8.7: Local Communication and Dissemination Plans by Leading and Replication Cities 2](#)

## CDE8: Participants in Urban Planning inTransition(s) Forum

The CDE8 KPI is 1 Urban Planning inTransition(s) Forum with 150 participants. The original ambition was to organise the Forum as a stand-alone event, or seek cooperation with the Cities Mission Conference, to host an urban planning-focused event to bring the partner cities together to discuss shared challenges, emergent solutions, and to network within the Cities Mission community. This proposal-initiated idea, however, proved difficult to materialise: the sister projects **UP2030**<sup>68</sup> and **CLIMABOROUGH**<sup>69</sup> (part of the Urban Planning and Design Cluster with Re-Value) are working on slightly different topics with different impact/ambition as Re-Value; the projects do not share the same delivery timelines making coordination difficult, and the projects did not foresee the additional costs associated with co-designing and participating in an event outside of their own project scope.

With encouragement from Laura Hetel (EC) at the Re-Value review meeting in September 2024, Re-Value together with UP2030 and CLIMABOROUGH organised the Cluster's significant presence at the **NetZeroCities Cities Mission Conference**<sup>70</sup> that took place on 6-8 May 2025 in Vilnius, Lithuania. Re-Value led a collaboration process with its sister projects to successfully co-design and organise the **Urban Planning and Design Cluster** exhibition and a World Cafe session at the Cities Mission Conference in lieu of a stand-alone event.

For logistical reasons, the original plan needed to be revised. It still ensures strong Re-Value dissemination in an updated schedule of one large hosted event, a couple of significant presences at the Mission Conference or similar, and additional event participation. In detail, the Forum turned into the events listed below.

1. Organisation of the Urban Planning and Design Cluster exhibition and World Café session at the **May 2025 Cities Mission Conference** with UP2030 and CLIMABOROUGH. Re-Value led a collaboration process with the other two cluster projects, to successfully co-design and organise the Urban Planning and Design Cluster exhibition in lieu of a stand-alone event. The cluster also hosted a World Café session on "Urban Planning and Design for Climate Impact". Over three days, the Urban Planning and Design exhibition became THE space for exchanging ideas, sharing tools, and starting meaningful conversations about how urban design and planning can accelerate progress towards climate neutrality, supported by high-quality materials, booklets, and short films. *(fulfilled)*
2. The **Re-Value Final Conference** will be organised in Bruges in November 2026 as a large public event close to the European Commission (Brussels), including the Cities Mission and New European Bauhaus communities, to showcase Re-Value achievements, and hand over key results to national and European policymakers, to reach stakeholders outside of the Mission Conference;
3. Participation in the **UP2030 Final Conference**, which took place in Barcelona on 3 November 2025, before the Smart City Expo (4-6 November 2025); *(fulfilled)*
4. Still under development: Potential participation in the **European Ocean Days** (Brussels, 2–6 March 2026),<sup>71</sup> the **New European Bauhaus Festival** (Brussels, 9-13 June 2026),<sup>72</sup> the **Rimini Velo-city**

<sup>68</sup> <https://up2030-he.eu/>

<sup>69</sup> <https://climaborough.eu/>

<sup>70</sup> <https://netzerocities.eu/cities-mission-conference/>

<sup>71</sup> [https://maritime-forum.ec.europa.eu/theme/governance/european-ocean-days\\_en](https://maritime-forum.ec.europa.eu/theme/governance/european-ocean-days_en)

<sup>72</sup> [https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/events/festival\\_en](https://new-european-bauhaus.europa.eu/events/festival_en)

**Congress** (Rimini, 16-19 June 2026),<sup>73</sup> and the **EU Week of Regions and Cities** (Brussels, October 2026).<sup>74</sup>

5. Re-Value has also organised a session at the European Week of Regions and Cities in 2024 and brought a speaker to Urban Future 2025; and the partners are present at other events.

## CDE9: Upskilling/capacity building with the youth through Innovation Camps

The third and last round of nine Innovation Camps took place in 2025 in all Re-Value cities. An overview of the Innovation Camps is given in the table below. Some details are further provided in the respective city sections. The Innovation Camps will be also thoroughly described in relevant deliverables, including D8.9: Re-Value Innovation Camps, Report 3, which is due in M44 (August 2026).

*Table 11: List of Innovation Camps during 2025.*

City and date	Participants	Thematic area
Ålesund (Norway) 16-23/09/2025	44	Value creation in urban planning
Bruges (Belgium) 20/02/2025	100	Science and technology urban planning – 4 urban challenges within Kaaidistrict
Burgas (Bulgaria) 02-03/06/2025	76	Climate-adapted urban development: focus on Mladost Sport Hall
Rimini (Italy) 06-07/03/2025	67	Urban sustainability & coastal revitalisation (Parco del Mare)
Cascais (Portugal) 15/10/2025	40	Urban transformation on the coast, alongside decarbonization for the well-being of the community
Constanța (Romania) 17-23/10/2025	47	Sustainable tourism - increasing attractiveness of peninsular area through intelligent, sustainable interventions
İzmir (Turkey) 13&18/11/2025	66	Sustainable urban design
Písek (Czech Republic) 10/11/2025	49	Tactical Urbanism and public space improvement
Rijeka (Croatia) 10/04/2025	56	Human-centred design in urban planning for climate-resilient coastal districts

The 2025 Innovation Camps demonstrated how the Re-Value project has significantly enhanced youth engagement by embedding structured, meaningful participation into real municipal challenges. Rather than treating students as passive observers, the project created an environment in which their contributions were visibly valued by city leaders, planners, and experts. This authenticity, whether students were reimagining heritage buildings in Ålesund, proposing coastal revitalisation in Constanța and Rijeka, or exploring community-centred interventions in Písek and Rimini, was central to their increased motivation.

<sup>73</sup> <https://www.velo-city-conference.com/en/partners-exhibitors/exhibitors/velo-city-2026-rimini/>

<sup>74</sup> <https://regions-and-cities.europa.eu/>

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When young people saw their ideas presented in official venues such as City Halls, and when municipal representatives actively interacted with them, they understood that their voices mattered. The visibility and recognition that Re-Value facilitated not only strengthened student confidence but also sparked wider community interest in sustainable urban development.

A major added value of the project lies in its strengthened partnerships between municipalities, schools, and Junior Achievement. By aligning each camp with ongoing planning priorities—from tactical urbanism in Písek to youth-friendly urban spaces in Ålesund—Re-Value ensured that themes were not abstract exercises but part of the cities' broader transition pathways. Where teachers were well onboarded and understood the pedagogical intentions behind the camps, students entered the process with a clearer foundation and stronger readiness to tackle complex themes such as climate adaptation, circularity, sustainable tourism, and community wellbeing. Conversely, inconsistent teacher engagement in some cities showed how critical their role is: without guidance, students felt less prepared, impacting the depth of their outcomes. In parallel, mentor roles proved equally important. Cities that ensured continuity and well-briefed mentors saw stronger ideas emerge, while frequent mentor changes or lack of context slowed team progress. These lessons reinforce that early communication, structured preparation, and shared understanding across all actors are essential for impactful youth engagement.

Re-Value also highlighted the need for clearer pathways after the camps. Many cities saw students generate high-quality, locally relevant ideas, but without structured follow-up these proposals risk becoming isolated moments of creativity rather than inputs into real planning. Encouraging examples did emerge, including for instance Ålesund integrating earlier camp concepts into the Sørsida urban development, Rijeka exploring youth-led volunteering models, Písek connecting ideas to participatory budgeting, and Constanța deepening the Peninsula-focused approach through guided tours and iterative challenges. Yet such mechanisms were not consistent across all sites. To fully realise the project's added value, cities and JA partners would benefit from creating light-touch continuation opportunities—such as youth advisory sessions, iterative prototype workshops, or simple pathways for municipal departments to revisit and refine student ideas.

Overall, the 2025 experience shows that Re-Value has elevated the role of young people in shaping climate-neutral and socially inclusive waterfront cities. By combining authentic urban challenges with strong cross-sector partnerships, visible recognition, and meaningful public engagement, the project created deeper civic ownership among students and strengthened municipal openness to youth perspectives. The next step is ensuring that these promising outcomes translate into long-term impact through stronger preparation, clearer communication, and continued opportunities for young people to contribute to their cities' evolving action plans.

The CDE9 KPI aims for 28 Innovation Camps (3 per city, 1 European) in 9 countries, reaching 1 400 youth. By the end of 2025 all national Innovation Camps were carried out (27 in total) reaching 1 785 youth, significantly above the expectations. The European Innovation Camp is planned to take place in October 2026, during the final event of the project.

## CDE10: Re-Value Policy Briefs

Preparatory outreach work by different partners has been ongoing, with specific results expected in the final year of the project. While formal policy briefs will mature in the last year, the foundations laid during

the first three years position that Re-Value's systemic insights can translate into actionable policy influence at EU, national, and local levels.

Pilots and long-term TTPs in nine Re-Value cities will be translated into nine Policy Briefs and follow-up meetings to influence relevant policy programmes. The goal is to give the cities a direct voice. More details will be available in the upcoming deliverable D9.7: Re-Value Anchoring and Advocacy Report 1 (to be submitted in M36).

The CDE10 KPI is 9 Policy Briefs. These are planned for the last year of the project, when more results are available to be shared.

## **CDE11: Contribution to regulatory, policy and standardisation initiatives, on national and European level**

Several partners have been actively engaged in partnerships and alliances at national and European levels, laying the groundwork for Re-Value's contribution to regulatory, policy, and standardisation initiatives. Although measurable results have not yet been achieved, this engagement strengthens Re-Value's impact by connecting the project to different initiatives and helping share knowledge from nine waterfront cities. In 2025, the coordination team further mapped strategic partnerships and alliances, as outlined below.

### **National level:**

- Mission-aligned hubs, such as the Norway Mission Forum, Portugal's Cities for Climate Network, Italy's Let'sGOv platform, Romania's M100 Mirror Hub, and Türkiye's INŞA initiative

### **European level:**

- EU Cities Mission and its implementation platform, [NetZeroCities](#)
- Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters, through the [CO-WATERS](#) project
- Mission on Adaptation to Climate Change
- New European Bauhaus ecosystem through collaboration with [NEB Junction](#)

More details will be available in the upcoming deliverable D9.7: Re-Value Anchoring and Advocacy Report 1 (to be submitted in M36).

The CDE11 KPI is 13 initiatives. As of the end of 2025, Re-Value is engaged with at least 9 initiatives.

## **CDE12: Participation in emergent national platforms**

Task 6.7 was specifically designed to ensure peer exchange and multi-level cooperation with NetZeroCities, the EU Cities Mission and any corresponding national platforms, as part of Re-Value's participation in the CIT-02-01 Cluster. From M25-M36, we continued to observe NetZeroCities' evolution and deployment of additional funding to deepen their support offer to Mission Cities, as well as their support offer to "Mission-Minded Cities" (cities who applied for the Cities Mission, but were not selected as one of the 112 Mission Cities), which was operationalised in 2025 through the NZC Twinning Programme. National-level support structures are developing organically from the inertia of the Cities Mission and more formally through existing or emergent networks or platforms (e.g., CapaCITIES and CapaCITIES 2.0).

Details about the progressive engagement of Re-Value cities with emerging national and regional networks are given in the respective city sections.

Overall, Re-Value cities have engaged with five national platforms during the third project year, including emerging networks in Belgium, Türkiye, Norway, Italy, and Romania. While the CDE12 KPI aims to engage nine national platforms, the dynamic nature of the Cities Mission and national networks means further engagement will continue in upcoming reporting periods. The development of national-level support structures and regional “Urban Transformations” webinars (milestone M25 and [CDE7](#)) will provide further opportunities for Re-Value cities to connect, share knowledge, and advance policy engagement.

## CDE13: Exploitable Results

Since project Phase 1 (understanding & sense-making) took longer than planned, initial exploitable results harvesting started in the third year and will be included in the upcoming deliverable D8.6: Re-Value Exploitable Results 1.

In 2025, Re-Value organized two workshops to put innovation in the spotlight and start collecting city stories in a structured way. The first, held in May during the online consortium meeting, was an Innovation Day focused on sharing ideas and approaches. The second took place in October in Cascais, where Sister city groups came together for a story session. These efforts kicked off a process to gather innovation stories linked to six systemic challenges, grouped into four categories: solutions, tools, approaches, and processes. Next steps include a follow-up survey in 2026 with cities.

The CDE13 KPI is 27 Exploitable Results. The upcoming D8.6: Re-Value Exploitable Results 1 will provide an overview of Re-Value innovations and highlights Re-Value Stories, co-developed and co-generated Scenarios, and the Investments and Partnerships models, delivered across cities in the first two years of the project implementation. In the final report D8.10, all co-generated and co-qualified results across three Innovation Cycles will be documented.

## 3.3. Outcomes

### 01.1: Re-Value cities reach Fit for 55 objectives

Throughout the project, Re-Value has supported its (Leading) cities in developing their Detailed Roadmaps and in implementing measures within the pilot areas. The Roadmaps (of LCs in particular) also included an assessment of the cities’ energy systems and of existing plans and policies related to climate objectives. However, specific targets or emission estimations at the level of the pilot areas were not available, which limits the possibility of directly assessing Re-Value’s contribution to the cities’ commitments under the Fit for 55 framework. In addition, while the Roadmaps include measures that are expected to contribute to emission reductions, the precise emission reduction potential of most measures has not yet been quantified.

In 2025, efforts therefore focused on strengthening the strategic and methodological foundations for longer-term impact. In particular, preparatory work was carried out to support the future updating of the cities’ Territorial Transformation Plans (TTPs) (see [R5](#)). Cities engaged in joint reflection on what updating

the TTPs entails in the context of Re-Value and participated in structured exchanges to explore how project practices, tools, and systemic approaches can be more effectively embedded in long-term planning frameworks. While this work has not yet resulted in measurable emission reductions, it is expected to enhance the capacity of cities to translate Re-Value learnings into sustained climate action beyond the project's duration.

Overall, the work carried out in the Pilot areas is expected to lead to positive impacts in terms of local energy savings, as well as broader effects through influencing public discourse and policy directions towards increased climate ambition. These impacts are supported by the Re-Value toolbox, including the Impact Model with monitoring indicators (D1.1), participatory story and scenario-building approaches, guidance on partnership strategies, the Portfolio of urban planning and design approaches, and the ongoing process of updating long-term TTPs.

The O1.1 KPI aims for 4 Re-Value cities to reach their Fit for 55 objectives. While a quantitative assessment of this KPI is not currently possible due to limited supporting data, initial steps taken within the Pilot areas and the emerging alignment of long-term planning processes with Re-Value principles are being monitored as important progress toward these goals.

## 01.2: Active cooperation with other Mission/NEB initiatives

In order to contribute to the implementation of European Programmes, Re-Value aims to align with other relevant Mission/NEB initiatives, platforms and projects, to showcase Re-Value cities' journeys and gain feedback for improvement. Since the beginning of the project, Re-Value has started cooperating with the following initiatives and projects:

1. NetZeroCities: multiple ways of collaboration, see D7.7: Re-Value Impact dialogues with NetZeroCities 2<sup>75</sup>
2. UP2030: Sister project in CIT-02-01 Cluster (see for instance [CDE8](#))
3. CLIMABOROUGH: Sister project in CIT-02-01 Cluster (see for instance [CDE8](#))
4. CrAft: several interactions and contributions relating to the NEB Impact Model (see [R2](#)), as well as through Písek, also participating in CrAft (see 2.2.4.5)
5. NEB-STAR: interaction relating to the NEB Impact Model
6. NetZeroCities Twinning Programme: Cascais paired with Aarhus and Aarhus presented their work at Re-Value Cascais Study Visit (see details in Cascais section in [2.2.1.4](#)).
7. CO-WATERS: extension of Re-Value into the EU Mission Restore our Ocean and Waters through the CO-WATERS project, Rimini and Burgas act as pilot cities and NTNU and ICLEI serve as leading partners
8. LIFE HELP: Rimini builds on LIFE HELP's governance model to develop a cross-sectoral framework aligned with the General Urban Plan.

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<sup>75</sup> [D7.7: Re-Value Impact dialogues with NetZeroCities 2](#)

9. NEB-Junction (the NEB Hub for Results and Impacts): Re-Value partners have applied to join the first Stakeholder Assembly of the NEB Junction taking place in January-February 2026. Re-Value further plans to contribute to major NEB events, most notably the NEB Festival which is taking place in mid-June 2026.
10. Green Dense: In Bruges, Green Dense team used the Dream Street maquette created for Re-Value, and the public domain team applied it to rethink public space in a co-creative way.
11. Bruges is also exploring synergies with two EUI projects Blue4Green and Relaunchtown.

The O1.2 KPI is 17 initiatives. In the third project year, Re-Value has continued cooperation with 11 initiatives and explored new cooperation with other initiatives.

### 01.3: Re-Value Policy Briefs inform policies at EU/national level

Re-Value will learn from on-the-ground experiences of the Waterfront Pilots and will produce Policy Briefs for national and European authorities, programmes and communities, disseminating our findings. For example, Bruges' City Atelier model, developed during Re-Value, is being embedded in city-wide policy processes and will be shared with higher governance levels in 2026 to inform broader frameworks. Cascais published an academic paper on climate adaptation based on Re-Value pilot work to guide regional policies and its Territorial Transformation Plan, contributing evidence-based insights to policy development. At European level, several dissemination activities are underway. See details in [CDE8](#).

The O1.3 KPI is 13 policies. This outcome is expected to be further strengthened in the last project year, once results have been translated into Policy Briefs ([CDE10](#)).

### 02.1: LCs and RCs take up the participatory Re-Value Story building, Scenario building and Investment & Partnership building strategies

Through the Innovation Cycles ([R3](#)), Re-Value cities have actively worked with participatory story building, data-informed scenario building, and partnership-building approaches. These methods have supported cities in structuring dialogue across departments and with external stakeholders, and in translating strategic ambitions into more concrete and locally grounded Roadmaps ([R5](#)). Both Leading Cities and Replication Cities applied these approaches in ways adapted to their institutional contexts, with Leading Cities focusing more strongly on pilot implementation and Replication Cities placing particular emphasis on strategic planning and roadmap development.

In 2025, **Innovation Cycle 1** supported Re-Value cities in operationalising story-building approaches primarily through short-term artistic missions, and four Sister Spaces sessions where cities were invited to challenging business-as-usual perspectives. Story-building approaches were applied across several cities in different ways. **Ålesund** and **Cascais** used artistic and participatory activities to reflect on the cultural and social dimensions of their waterfront pilots and to articulate longer-term visions beyond immediate development pressures. **Rijeka** applied narrative framing to reposition Exportdvo and the Cultural Corridor within a broader climate-resilient and inclusive urban agenda. **Izmir** used story-building exercises to connect citizen perspectives and local knowledge with emerging digital and data-driven tools for the Alsancak area.

In 2025, **Innovation Cycle 2** supported cities in strengthening data-driven scenario building through a mix of analytical review, bilateral exchanges, and hands-on tool development. Scenario-building activities were

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applied in practice across several cities. **Bruges** used detailed energy modelling to compare alternative investment scenarios for renewable energy and storage solutions in the Kaaidistrict, supporting evidence-based dialogue with developers. **Izmir** applied scenario-building methods to inform the development of a Digital Twin Roadmap for the Alsancak pilot area, integrating spatial, environmental, and citizen-generated data. **Cascais** and **Constanța** engaged in bilateral discussions to assess available datasets and explore how scenario tools could better support their pilot ambitions. **Ålesund** is discussing scenario building, making use of a Graphical Digital Twin of the area. Across cities, a key learning was the need for a clear, stepwise process to translate qualitative visions into measurable and comparable scenarios, which directly informed the conception and development of a Re-Value scenario-building webtool.

In 2025, **Innovation Cycle 3** focused on supporting cities in addressing financing and partnership challenges linked to their pilot actions through an intensive Sister Spaces process. This included preparatory meetings with all cities to identify priority topics, followed by four in-depth Sister Space workshops that enabled peer exchange on concrete interventions, funding models, and governance arrangements. The cities used these exchanges to reflect on existing partnership structures and financing approaches, discuss challenges related to long-term investment and maintenance, and explore alternative models for public–private collaboration. Some compared governance arrangements and stakeholder roles linked to their pilots. The resulting City Canvases capture lessons learned and provide tailored guidance to support cities in preparing more robust pathways for future deployment.

The O2.1 KPI targets 9 Re-Value cities. Progress towards this KPI is ongoing and is documented qualitatively in [Section 2](#). Given the longer-term nature of changes related to participatory practices, collaboration models, and strategic planning approaches, a quantitative assessment of this KPI will be undertaken at the end of the project, when cities' experiences can be reviewed more comprehensively.

## 02.2: Citizens/professional stakeholders feel they contributed to the outcomes

Each of the Re-Value cities has held several rounds of local workshops ([CDE1](#)) in their local contexts in the past three years. This KPI is intended to compare project and city outcomes against the participation, including but not only individual meetings or engagements.

Each city operates in a unique local context and engages target groups differently. Supported by the Re-Value Inclusiveness Protocol, cities are encouraged to use various modes of engagement (e.g. surveys, workshops, outreach efforts) tailored to their needs. Building on the Re-Value Inclusiveness Protocol, a set of sample indicators has been developed to guide cities in tracking progress and is included in D9.9: Inclusiveness and Diversity Management Plan 3.<sup>76</sup>

To support monitoring, from September 2025, WP7 updated the reporting structure for monthly technical board meetings, asking cities to report on actions for engaging citizens/ professional stakeholders directly in decision-making.

An indicator framework aligned with the Re-Value monitoring strategy (WP7) and Societal Readiness Levels (SRL) has been developed under Task 9.3. This framework helps assess inclusiveness in engagement processes, evaluate the accessibility and relevance of tools and governance models, and monitor diversity of participation.

<sup>76</sup> [D9.9: Inclusiveness and Diversity Management Plan 3](#)

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The O2.2 KPI is 70% of participating project target groups. While general feedback from the cities support the conclusion that involved stakeholders generally value their involvement in the process, there is no data available to confirm this.

## 03.1: LCs and RCs use the Re-Value Impact Model long-term

Re-Value is working with the cities to familiarise them with the Impact Model and identify ways in which it can be used to support city processes on one hand, and to improve the Impact Model itself on the other hand (see [R2](#)). Already the systemic viewpoint, co-benefits, conflicts, and other key elements of working with the Impact Model have inspired the development of the cities' Roadmaps, and are expected to further contribute to the implementation of the Waterfront Pilots and updating of long-term TTPs in the last project year ([R5](#)). An overview of the work undertaken with the Re-Value cities can be seen in the relevant description under [R2](#), as well as in the progress reported by the cities in [Section 2](#).

As an outcome of previous Impact Model Workshops in which the NEB Impact Model Dominoes Game was tested, the game was further refined and shared with other cities during the Cities Mission Conference, supporting accessible engagement with the Model and helping Re-Value and also other cities explore systemic impacts in a practical, interactive way. In early 2025, the role of the Impact Model in cities' work was investigated further through a series of City Space meetings. Some of this investigation progressed throughout the follow-up Sister Space meetings with the cities of Bruges and Písek in particular. There was even a dedicated in-person Impact Model workshop application in the real world with the city of Bruges in September 2025.

These investigations showed that Rimini is using Impact Model's principles to monitor and guide the "Parco del Mare" initiative through a NEB performance index, which assesses impacts on sustainability, social cohesion, and urban aesthetics while supporting informed decision-making and continuous improvement. Písek is exploring the Impact Model as a framework for project evaluation and long-term governance consistency. Bruges is experimenting with how the Model could guide environmental projects and broader policy processes through which they identified the need for digital tools, facilitation, and a holistic approach to maximize its use.

The O3.1 KPI is long-term adoption of Impact Model by 9 Re-Value cities. Ongoing progress related to this KPI has been reported in [Section 2](#) and [R2](#). However, as this is a longer-term impact, quantitative evaluation of the KPI will only be attempted at the end of the project.

## 03.2: LCs and RCs adopt the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol long-term

I&D activities so far are described under [R1](#) in this document. In 2025, D9.9: Inclusiveness and Diversity Management Plan <sup>77</sup> provided a practical guideline to support cities embrace the Inclusiveness and Diversity Protocol. Building on these principles, Re-Value cities tried to implement concrete actions that reflect long-term adoption.

For example, Cascais embraced the protocol in the series Re(Thinking) Cascais Waterfront co-creation workshops. Analysis of participant profiles revealed balanced gender representation (50.48% women, 49.52% men) and diverse origins (64.52% local residents, 35.48% external participants), reflecting

<sup>77</sup> [D9.9: Inclusiveness and Diversity Management Plan 3](#)

inclusiveness in practice. These workshops informed future scenarios and strengthened community involvement in decision-making.

Similarly, Ålesund advanced adoption through a wide set of participatory workshops, including a co-creation session with high school students presenting design proposals developed with local institutions and professionals. These proposals addressed real neighbourhood needs and fostered long-term relationships between young residents and the district, embedding Re-Value principles in education and local identity.

Across all cities, innovation camps amplified inclusiveness by actively involving diverse voices—particularly youth—in shaping transformation pathways.

The O3.2 KPI is 9 Re-Value cities. Ongoing progress related to this KPI has been reported in [Section 2](#). However, as this is a longer-term impact, quantitative evaluation of the KPI will only be attempted at the end of the project.

## 04.1: Exploitable Results are embedded in Re-Value cities

Re-Value is developing participatory Exploitable Results, which are tested by the project's cities in their Roadmaps and Pilots. Through the TTP process, the aim is to also embed them in their decision structures through the updating of the long-term TTPs (see [CDE13](#)).

The O4.1 KPI is 27 Exploitable Results. This longer-term outcome will be reviewed based on the upcoming relevant deliverables on Exploitable Results and the cities' TTP deliverables in the final year.

## 04.2: LCs and RCs embed long-term Re-Value's data-driven co-creation and scenario-building in decision support

In 2025, progress focused on operationalising data-driven co-creation and scenario-building as practical decision-support approaches, rather than on defining a single, uniform framework. IC2 reviewed all cities' Detailed Roadmaps and structured the findings in the Re-Value Cities Canvas, which provided a shared basis for discussing data availability, analytical capacities, and scenario-building practices. Follow-up exchanges with individual cities helped clarify local needs and readiness for applying data-driven approaches in planning and decision-making.

Concrete applications in 2025 illustrate this longer-term orientation. **Bruges** used energy modelling and scenario analysis to inform strategic investment discussions for the Kaaidistrict, while **Izmir** applied scenario-building methods to structure its Digital Twin Roadmap for the Alsancak pilot area, creating a foundation for continued use of digital tools in planning and monitoring. **Ålesund** is also envisaging different scenario building strategies, making use of a 4D Graphical Digital Twin of the area. In other cities, scenario-building efforts focused on establishing the preconditions—such as data inventories, institutional roles, and internal workflows—needed to support future decision-making.

A key insight across cities is that long-term embedding depends less on advanced modelling than on clear, repeatable processes that translate qualitative ambitions into decision-relevant options. In response, 2025 was used to develop and make initial tests and co-creation iterations for a Re-Value scenario-building webtool, informed by cities' needs and capacities. The tool is intended to support consistent application of collaborative scenario-building over time and across different city contexts.

The O4.2 KPI is 9 Re-Value cities. Progress toward this KPI remains incremental and is expected to consolidate in the final project phase as cities further integrate these approaches into their long-term planning and governance frameworks.

## **05.1: LCs and RCs embed in their strategies for updating long-term Territorial Transformation Plans a universal design of climate neutrality, including energy and mobility poverty**

In 2025, work focused on preparing the ground for embedding inclusive approaches to climate neutrality in cities' long-term planning processes. While updated TTPs are only planned for 2026, Re-Value activities supported cities in reflecting on social equity, accessibility, and governance aspects of climate-neutral transitions through participatory story building, scenario exploration, and peer exchange in Sister Spaces and TTP-related discussions. These processes increased awareness of the need to address distributional impacts, including energy and mobility affordability, and are expected to inform how universal design principles are more explicitly integrated into updated TTPs in the final project year.

The O5.1 KPI is 9 Re-Value cities. This is a longer-term impact that needs to be linked to the cities' strategies for updated TTPs ([R5](#)), and will therefore be evaluated when they are completed.

## **05.2: LCs and RCs fully embed the participatory, circular and shared value chains in their Investment and Partnership Plans**

Activities of Innovation Cycle 3 on investment and partnerships aim to provide the necessary knowledge and tools that will allow cities to identify investment and partnership opportunities that revolve around participatory, circular and shared value chains. In the second project year, the Innovation Cycle supported the cities with financing expertise in the context of various ongoing activities in Re-Value, conducting tailored City Finance Dialogues.

Building on these earlier City Finance Dialogues, the Sister Space sessions in IC3 further contributed to O5.2 by translating explorative insights into more concrete investment and partnership approaches (see [R3](#) and [Section 2](#)). By pairing Leading and Replication Cities around shared thematic challenges (e.g. coastal resilience, waterfront regeneration, creative districts, energy communities), the Sister Spaces helped cities map specific value chains, clarify where public, private and community actors can contribute, and compare different governance and financing options for similar types of interventions. The exchanges also surfaced practical mechanisms for embedding participatory and circular value chains into future Investment and Partnership Plans, such as phased development linked to impact evidence, new maintenance and contribution models, and stronger roles for intermediaries (planning agencies, universities, chambers of commerce). As a result, cities can begin to position concrete projects and governance experiments as stepping stones for mainstreaming Re-Value principles in their longer-term transition pathways.

The O5.2 KPI is 9 Re-Value cities. Ongoing progress related to this KPI has been reported in [Section 2](#). However, as this is a longer-term impact, quantitative evaluation of the KPI will only be attempted at the end of the project.

## 3.4 Impacts

Several of the Impact KPIs are closely related to each other. While they contribute to a different Impact expected by the Mission, the means of achieving them is the same. Therefore they are here reported as a group. This concerns:

- I1.1, combined with I2, I3, I4, I5, I6 and I7
- I1.2, combined with I8

For the two groups above, a common description is provided, combining the common aspects. For more details on the specific contribution of each KPI to the different Mission Impacts, the reader is referred to deliverable D7.6: Re-Value M&E Model (second Intermediate Version).<sup>78</sup>

### 11.1: Other European cities use Re-Value results

Also incorporating:

- I2: Other cities/projects take up participatory Re-Value Story building, Scenario building, and Investment & Partnership building methods
- I3: Other cities/projects embed participatory, circular and shared value chains in their Investment and Partnership strategies
- I4: Other cities take up a universal design of climate neutrality, including energy and mobility poverty
- I5: Other cities/projects take up Re-Value Portfolio of Urban Planning and Design Approaches
- I6: Other cities/projects take up the participatory Re-Value Impact Model and Innovation Cycles
- I7: Other cities/projects take up Re-Value's data-driven co-creation and Scenario building

Transformative change in cities is not just about improving isolated components, but about reshaping the socio-technical systems in which urban life unfolds. These systems integrate social elements (such as people, skills, behaviours, organizations, and cultures) with technical ones (such as technologies, infrastructures, tools, and data). Because these elements are tightly interdependent, transformation is inherently place-based, rooted in local contexts, yet capable of generating transferable insights. What can be uptaken is not the specific interventions, but the process and methods used to design them: while other cities cannot replicate Re-Value's actions, they can adopt its approach.

Re-Value demonstrates this transferability through structured learning between Leading Cities and Replication Cities (see details [R2](#), [R5](#)). Through these interactions, cities identify not only what works and what doesn't in their own context, but also which mechanisms, governance approaches, and socio-technical configurations can be adapted elsewhere.

On 20 November, a dedicated online workshop was held to co-create pathways to wider impacts with cross-cutting partners. During the session, the Re-Value team agreed that the first step to making these lessons transferable is to codify the knowledge created across all partners. This means documenting the

<sup>78</sup> [D7.6: Re-Value M&E Model \(Second Intermediate Version\)](#)

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processes, tools, co-benefits mapping approaches, good practices, and the decision-making that enabled local transformation. By translating these place-based experiences into generalized principles and actionable methods, Re-Value ensures its results can circulate across Europe, enabling other cities to initiate their own transformative trajectories.

A key component of Re-Value's offer to other cities is the Re-Value Urban Planning and Design Approaches Portfolio ([R4](#)), which aims to collect and present best practice approaches that align with Re-Value's core principles. Insights and lessons from the cities' Re-Value innovation journeys are captured throughout the duration of the project and will be included in the final version of the Portfolio (D6.10). The Portfolio aims to inform, inspire, and encourage collaborative learning within Re-Value and eventually with all European cities as they work to update their urban policies, processes, and practices to help achieve the European Green Deal's goal to become the first climate-neutral continent in the world (see also [1.2](#)). In 2025, the collection of best practice approaches for the Re-Value Portfolio has been ongoing (see details in [R4](#)).

The next step will focus on communication and dissemination, strengthening links with the Cities Mission and its Mission Platform (NetZeroCities), national platforms, and other related initiatives to promote uptake of Re-Value results ([O1.2](#) & [CDE12](#)). In 2025, Re-Value has been actively engaged in dissemination activities, including Cities' Mission Conference in Vilnius in May, where over 250 copies of the NEB Impact Model Dominoes Game were distributed, and presentation of Re-Value cities' learnings at the UP2030 Final Conference on 3 November 2025 (see details in [R2](#), [CDE8](#)).

Looking ahead, the project will continue its outreach through participation in various events (see details in [CDE8](#)). At the city level, Re-Value cities are encouraged to join the City-to-City Twinning Learning Programme for Mission-Minded Cities in 2026. The workshop on co-creating pathways to wider impacts will be extended to Re-Value cities in 2026, encouraging the cities to reflect on how they can contribute to achieving wider impacts. Project results will also be integrated in the Mission Portal knowledge repository (see also [1.2](#)) and presented at the Re-Value Final Conference and other European events in 2026 ([CDE8](#)), while insights from the cities will be included in Policy Briefs ([CDE10](#)).

The target value is 9 other cities/projects for all KPIs I1.1, I2, I3, I4, I5, I6 and I7. These are longer-term impacts linked to dissemination activities and are planned to be evaluated in the final year of the project.

## 11.2: Re-Value Portfolio, Impact Model and Innovation Cycles are integrated in Mission Portal Knowledge Repository

Also incorporating:

- I8: Re-Value's data-driven co-creation and scenario-building is integrated in the Mission portal knowledge repository

To help with capacity building among European cities, Re-Value will share key results on the NetZeroCities Portal. The transformation taking place in the Re-Value cities, through the co-creation of the Impact Model ([R2](#)) and the implementation of the Innovation Cycles ([R3](#)) will be documented and shaped into concise, practice-oriented outputs that can be useful for other cities. Together with ICLEI and in concordance with other tasks and WPs, responsible partners are in the process of identifying relevant results from their work with the cities to be uploaded to the NetZeroCities Portal's Knowledge Repository, making them accessible to a broad range of cities and stakeholders. This is already in the planning for the final project year.

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Furthermore, the Re-Value Portfolio of Urban Planning and Design Approaches ([R4](#)) will be shared, summarising the main principles of the Re-Value approach and how they are operationalised through urban design and planning methods and tools to help achieve Europe's climate neutrality ambitions. The final version of Re-Value exploitable results will also be shared ([CDE13](#)).

Since the lifespan of the Re-Value website is limited due to funding constraints, there is an opportunity to retain knowledge by connecting with NEB Junction (see [O1.2](#)). In addition, discussions are underway regarding a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NetZeroCities to strengthen collaboration and ensure continuity beyond the project's duration.

The KPI for I1.2 is 5 relevant resources and 1 relevant resource for I8. Planning for the final project year in the relevant tasks and Work Packages is ongoing, with the resources planned to be produced in 2026, when they will be made available on the NetZeroCities Portal's Knowledge Repository.

## **I9: EU policies, programmes and initiatives linked to cities incorporate Re-Value results**

Re-Value seeks to generate evidence and insights that inform EU, national, and regional policies and programmes by testing innovative approaches in its partner cities and sharing the results produced throughout the project (see [CDE13](#)). While most of this policy-oriented work will take place in the last year of the project, outreach activities are already planned to ensure visibility and engagement. These include participation in major EU-level events (see details in [CDE8](#)) such as possible participation in the European Ocean Days in Brussels (2–6 March 2026), the New European Bauhaus Festival in Brussels (9–13 June 2026), and the EU Week of Regions and Cities (October 2026). The project will conclude with the Re-Value Final Event which will take place in Bruges in late November 2026. The event will include a 1-day public conference open to high-level European commissioners. In addition, Re-Value will deliver policy and strategy guidance, including policy briefs on place-based and spatial-neutral approaches to inform EU/national policies (see [CDE10](#)).

The I9 KPI is 17 EU policies, programmes or initiatives. This is a longer-term impact, linked to dissemination activities, that is planned to be evaluated in the final year of the project.

## 4. Conclusion

This deliverable reports on the progress of the project's impact during the third project year (January 2025 to December 2025) in terms of the defined Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E). Also lessons learned are reported, when relevant.

In the third project year, Leading Cities progressed to a period of application, actively working with the Innovation Cycles to test and implement concepts and actions identified in the first half of the project. In parallel, the Replication Cities completed and submitted their Detailed Roadmaps (Part I: Explore), also undertaking substantial planning work and integrating Re-Value's Innovation Cycles in ways tailored to their local contexts. Using co-creation, data-driven approaches and innovative ideas shared in the Community of Practice, all cities have translated strategic concepts into concrete pilot actions (or plans), strengthened cross-departmental collaboration, and advanced more integrated approaches to urban transition challenges.

As cities progressed from co-creation and contextualization to implementation, it became increasingly apparent that the operational links between the Innovation Cycles were weaker than originally foreseen in the Grant Agreement. During this transition, limited coordination constrained the systematic transfer of narratives and insights from IC1 into IC2 and IC3 workflows, reducing the cumulative potential of story building, scenario development, and investment and partnership activities.

Furthermore, adopting an integrated, city-oriented approach that recognizes both the diversity of local contexts and the need for coherence across the project was found to be of great importance. Working in a coordinated yet adaptable way has proven essential for supporting cities at different stages of readiness and with varying institutional capacities. Here the Sister Spaces were found to be an effective mechanism for peer learning and collective reflection. By grouping cities with comparable challenges and providing structured yet informal settings for exchange, Sister Spaces enabled deeper discussion of narratives, data use, financing, and governance issues. Cities reported that these exchanges helped them contextualise their own challenges, learn from comparable experiences, and test emerging ideas in a trusted environment.

Similarly, the progress made related to the Territorial Transformation Plans (TTPs) provided important insights into how project-level learning can be connected to long-term urban planning. Ålesund and Bruges found the collaborative work around TTPs particularly valuable, while other cities reported that receiving structured guidance on the connected deliverables helped clarify expectations and reduce uncertainty. At the same time, the process revealed that aligning project terminology with urban planning vocabulary remains one of the most challenging aspects. The development of a shared visual framework proved useful and offers potential for further use. The organisation of TTP Talks involving multiple cities, experts, and observers required significant coordination effort, however it supported documentation and project-level alignment, highlighting the importance of maintaining momentum into the final year.

Another key learning emerging from city experiences is the importance of flexibility in applying Re-Value methods. Cities rarely adopted tools or processes as standalone or linear steps; instead, they adapted them to fit existing planning cycles, institutional capacities, and political realities. This has underscored that value is often created less through the direct uptake of individual tools, and more through the reflective processes

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and cross-sectoral dialogue they enable. In several cases, this has contributed to incremental shifts in how cities frame problems, prioritise actions, and collaborate internally and externally.

At the same time, the monitoring work confirms that many of the most relevant changes triggered at city level are still unfolding. Learning how to integrate pilot-level experimentation into mainstream planning, how to sustain stakeholder engagement over time, and how to translate qualitative insights into measurable outcomes remains an ongoing challenge. The process also highlighted the difficulty cities have in articulating and evidencing change while they are still in the process of implementation, particularly alongside ongoing operational work. Next to that, the collection of information for certain KPIs proved more complex, particularly with regard to emission reduction figures (lack of data or estimates at required resolution) and the assessment of progress on Societal Readiness Levels (change of city priorities compared to inception).

The final year of the project provides an important opportunity to consolidate these experiences. The forthcoming deliverables will build on city journeys, Roadmaps (RCs), Full scale deployment (LCs) and work towards updated TTPs to support structured reflection across cities. This will allow cities to articulate more clearly what has changed as a result of Re-Value, what approaches have proven most relevant in their context, and how the project's practices and learnings can inform future urban transition efforts beyond the project's lifetime. Deliverable D7.9: Re-Value M&E Model (final version), due in March 2026, will document how WP7 will capture these insights in the final project year, while deliverable D7.10: Re-Value M&E Report 4, due in December 2026, will include the learnings throughout the project duration.

## Glossary of Terms

### General Terms

AHP	Analytic Hierarchy Process
AI	Artificial Intelligence
C2C	City-to-City
CCC	Climate City Contract
CD&E	Capacity Development and Exchange
CDE	Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation
CM	Consortium Meeting
EU	European
IC	Innovation Cycle
I&D	Inclusiveness and Diversity
İZPA	İzmir Planning Agency
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
LC	Leading City
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
NbS	Nature-based Solutions
NEB	New European Bauhaus
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NZC	NetZeroCities
RC	Replication City
SECAP	Sustainable Energy and Climate Action Plan
SRL	Societal Readiness Level
SV	Study Visit
TTP	Territorial Transformation Plan
WP	Work Package

## Partner names

AC	AugmentCity AS
AK	Ålesund Kommune
BRG	STAD Brugge
BUR	OBSHTINA BURGAS
CM	Municipiu Resedinta de Judet Constanța
ECOTEN	Ecoten urban comfort s.r.o.
EMAC	Empresa Municipal de Ambiente de Cascais Em Sa
GIB	Stiftung Global Infrastructure Basel
ICLEI	ICLEI EUROPEAN SECRETARIAT GmbH
IFLA	International Federation of Landscape Architects Europe
IMM	IZMIR BUYUKSEHIR BELEDIYESI
IZTECH	İzmir Institute of Technology
JAE	JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT EUROPE
LNEG	Laboratório Nacional de Energia e Geologia
MP	Město Písek / Městský úřad Písek
NTNU	Norges Teknisk-Naturvitenskapelige Universitet
RIJ	Grad Rijeka / City of Rijeka
RIM	Comune di Rimini
SP	Sladovna Czech cultural organisation
SU	Sofia University
SUAS	Sørsida Utvikling AS
TV	Teatret vårt
UNG	Univerza v Novi Gorica
UNIBO	Università di Bologna
VITO	Vlaamse Instelling voor Technologisch Onderzoek N.V.
ZMC	Asociația de Dezvoltare Intercomunitara Zona Metropolitana Constanța

## About Re-Value – Re-Valuing Urban Quality & Climate Neutrality in European Waterfront Cities

The Re-Value partnership consists of nine European waterfront cities and selected European organisations that work to make the urban transition irresistible for everyone. This is done by demonstrating how climate neutrality and urban quality can be aligned, by re-valuing the cities’ connection to their waterfronts, strengthening co-benefits and mitigating potential adverse impacts.

Ålesund (Norway), Bruges (Belgium), Burgas (Bulgaria), and Rimini (Italy) demonstrate how integrated urban planning and design can be optimally deployed to achieve climate neutrality and significantly reduce GHG emissions by 2030. In addition, Cascais (Portugal), Constanța (Romania), İzmir (Türkiye), Písek (Czechia), and Rijeka (Croatia) learn, replicate and develop their own participatory story-building, data-driven scenarios, and financial and partnership models on integrated urban planning and design to accelerate their journeys to climate neutrality.

The partnership is coordinated by the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) and is funded by the European Union's Research and Innovation funding programme Horizon Europe under grant agreement 101096943.

Learn more about the partnership and the outcomes on [re-value-cities.eu](https://re-value-cities.eu).

### Partners



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